



Gc  
942.3801  
So53n  
v.24 ✓  
1400921





ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY



3 1833 00675 8400

M. L.

GENEALOGY COLLECTION





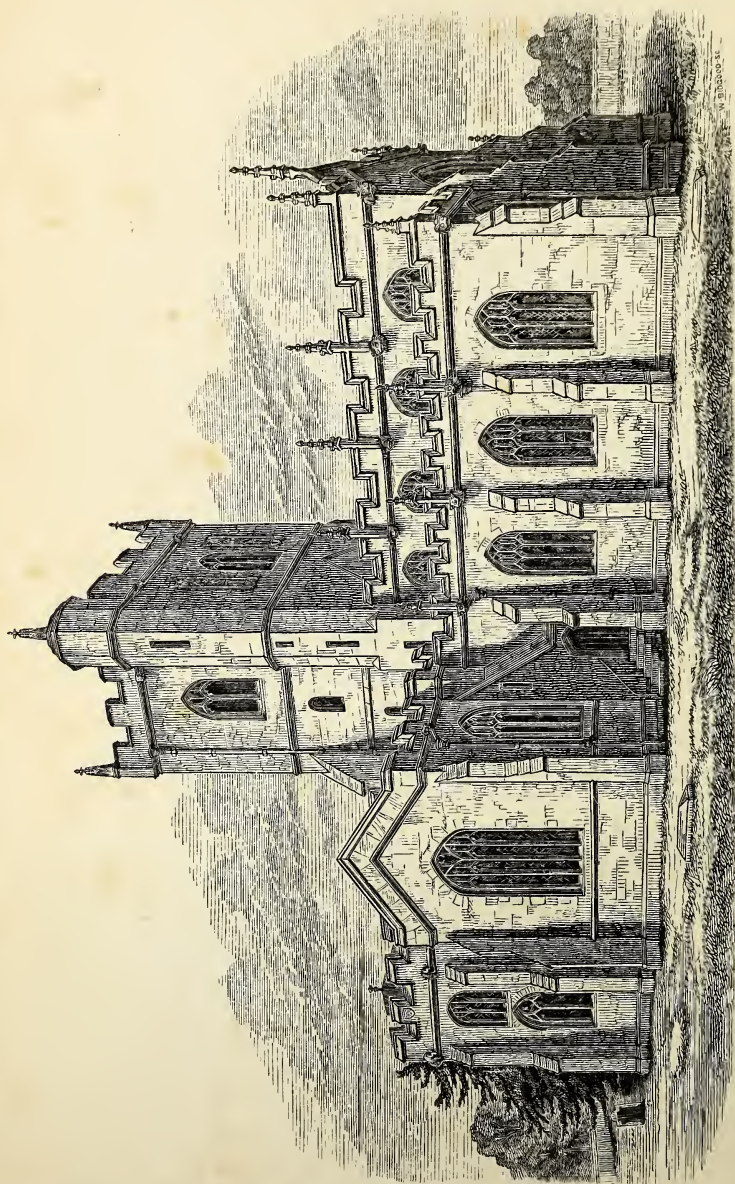


Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2014

<https://archive.org/details/proceedings24some>







DITCHEAT CHURCH, SOMERSET.—NORTH-WEST VIEW.



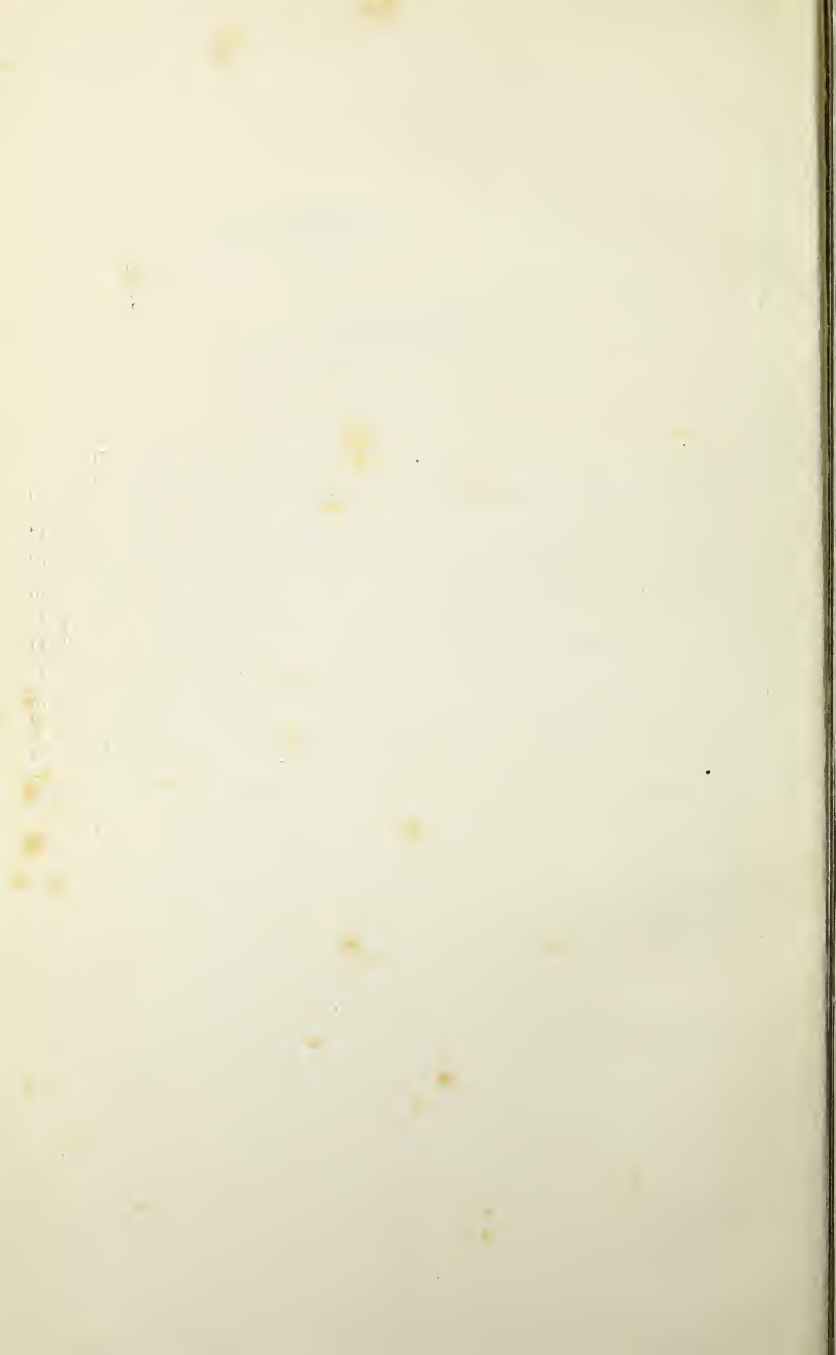
SOMERSETSHIRE  
ARCHÆOLOGICAL  
AND  
NATURAL HISTORY  
SOCIETY'S  
*PROCEEDINGS*, 1878.



VOL. XXIV.

---

*Taunton :*  
W. CHESTON, HIGH STREET.  
LONDON: LONGMANS, GREEN, READER, AND DYER.  
MDCCCLXXXIX.





# *Contents.*

## PART I.—PROCEEDINGS.

	PAGE.
Opening Meeting - - - - -	1
Report of the Council - - - - -	2
Financial Statement - - - - -	5
Appointment of Officers - - - - -	6
Place of Meeting - - - - -	7
President's Inaugural Address - - - - -	8
Excursion to the Carthusian Church at Witham - -	19
Bruton—	
The Church - - - - -	32
The Abbot's House - - - - -	37
Hugh Sexey's Hospital - - - - -	37
Evening Meeting—	
Cartulary of Bruton Abbey - - - - -	38
Roman Road between Exeter and Caerleon - -	38
Exploration of Barrows at Cadbury - - -	38
The King's March through Somerset, July, 1644 -	38
Excursion—	
Creech Hill Quarries - - - - -	38
Milton Clevedon Church - - - - -	42
Batcombe Church - - - - -	43
The Biss Family - - - - -	45
Small Down Camp - - - - -	47
Evercreech Church - - - - -	47
Ditcheat Church - - - - -	48
Castle Cary Church - - - - -	49
History of Castle Cary - - - - -	50

## Evening Meeting—

Exploration of Muchelney Abbey	-	-	-	-	52
Roman Somerset	-	-	-	-	53
Wills of Bruton Families	-	-	-	-	54
Penpits	-	-	-	-	54

## Excursion—

Stavordale Priory	-	-	-	-	54
Penselwood Church	-	-	-	-	55
Penpits	-	-	-	-	56
Report on Excavations	-	-	-	-	59
Stourhead	-	-	-	-	62
The Local Museum	-	-	-	-	63
King Alfred's Palace at Wedmore	-	-	-	-	63
Altar Tomb at Curry Malet	-	-	-	-	67
The Library and Museum	-	-	-	-	69
Conversazione Meetings	-	-	-	-	73
Addenda to Paper on Roman Somerset	-	-	-	-	74

---

 PART II.—PAPERS.

Roman Somerset	-	-	-	-	-	1
On the Course of a Roman Military Road through Somersetshire	-	-	-	-	-	22
On the Family of Fitzjames	-	-	-	-	-	32
The King's March through Somerset, 1644	-	-	-	-	-	43
On some Somerset Chap-Books	-	-	-	-	-	50
Notes on the Excavations at Muchelney	-	-	-	-	-	67
Report of Excavation of a Twin Barrow and a Single Round Barrow at Sigwell, parish of Charlton Horrethorne, Somerset	-	-	-	-	-	75
Observations on the Topography of Sigwell	-	-	-	-	-	84
On the Name of Silver Street	-	-	-	-	-	89
Banwell Charters	-	-	-	-	-	117
Communications on the West Front of Wells Cathedral						119
Rules, List of Members, &c.						



## PART III.

The Churchwardens' Accounts of S. Michael's, Bath.—

Second part.

Accounts, No. 20, 1425—No. 28, 1441.

---

LIST OF PLATES.

Ditchat Church	-	-	-	-	-	frontispiece.
Map of Roman Somerset	-	-	-	-	-	Part II, p. 1.
Plan of Excavations at Muchelney Abbey	-				-	„ p. 67.

---



*Proceedings*  
*of the*  
*Somersetshire Archæological and*  
*Natural History Society,*  
*during the year 1878.*

---

THE Thirtieth Annual Meeting of the Society was held at BRUTON on Tuesday, August 27th, in the King's School. Bruton was visited by the Society in 1857, under the presidency of Lord Talbot de Malahide, when Penselwood Church, Penpits, Stourton, and Castle Cary were included in the excursions. Ditchat and Evercreech, which were put down in the programme of this year's Meeting, were also visited during the Meeting of the Society at Shepton Mallet in 1865. The Society was therefore this year to a great extent going over old ground. This did not make the Meeting in any degree less successful. The lapse of twenty-one years materially changes the party which annually assembles at our gatherings, and a second visit not only affords instruction and pleasure to many, who were not present on the earlier occasion, but also brings to light much that was before passed over or misunderstood. The arrangements for the Meeting were chiefly carried out by Messrs. H. Dyne and W. Müller, and its success is really due to their active and able management.

The public proceedings began shortly after 11.30 a.m. The chair was taken by the President, the Hon. and Right Rev. Bishop CLIFFORD.

The PRESIDENT said that he had before him a record of all the Society's proceedings, and an account of what had been done during the past year. He thought that all present would agree with him that the record of those proceedings contained



much matter of considerable interest with reference to the county. The excursions which had been held during the past year had likewise been of great good to the Society. He hoped that the coming year might be as successful as the last. He was exceedingly happy to present to the Society their President for the coming year—the Rev. Canon Meade, who had been so long connected with the Society, and who had such an admirable knowledge of the archæology of the neighbourhood. He had great pleasure in resigning the chair to Canon Meade.

The proposal “that the Rev. Canon Meade be elected President for the ensuing year,” being put from the Chair, was duly seconded and carried with applause.

CANON MEADE briefly expressed his thanks to Bishop Clifford, and the Society generally, and having taken the President’s chair, reminded the Meeting of the short time at their disposal, and proceeded to the dispatch of business. He said that Mr. Hunt, who usually conducted their meetings, was obliged to be absent on account of an important parochial engagement, but would join them before the day was past. Neither of the other Secretaries was able to be present, but Mr. Hunt had informed him that Mr. W. E. Surtees, one of the Vice-Presidents of the Society, would kindly take his place, until he should arrive to do his own work. He therefore called on Mr. Surtees to read the

### *Report of the Council.*

“In presenting their 30th Annual Report your Council are able to congratulate the Society on the prosperity which continues to attend it.

“In the number of its Members an increase of twenty has been made since the last report, making a total of 505—a higher number than has ever previously been attained by this Society.

“Of the state of its finances the balance sheet of the Treasurer will report favourably, presenting a balance of £45 12s. 7d. to the credit of the Society.

“The Castle Purchase Fund has been drawn upon largely

during the past year, for the removal of the ruinous buildings in the courtyard of the Castle, in accordance with the resolution of the last general Meeting, and for other works necessarily involved in that undertaking. But, notwithstanding this, it is not in a worse condition than it was at the time of the last yearly report.

“Your Council have to thank the Local Committee of Bridgewater, who so ably provided for the Meeting of the Society last year in that town, for the liberal donation of twenty guineas to the Castle Purchase Fund.

“In adverting to the direction given to the Committee to remove the ruinous buildings in the courtyard of the Castle at Taunton, they wish to report that an interesting fragment of the ancient Castle, viz., a considerable portion of the original wall, apparently of the thirteenth century, dividing the inner court, has been brought to light.

“Your Council report that a Sub-Committee undertook to bring together and exhibit a Collection of Engravings in the Great Hall of Taunton Castle, illustrating the progress of the art from its beginning. The Exhibition has been attended with great success. The proceeds, after payment of the expenses, will be devoted to the Castle Purchase Fund. The skill and labour with which this plan has been conceived and carried out by three gentlemen—the Rev. I. S. Gale, Mr. Arthur Malet, and Mr. Surtees—deserve the thanks of the Society. It is worthy of remark that this is the first public exhibition of engravings only, which has attempted to illustrate the history of the art in its various branches, and, as such, it has attracted considerable attention throughout the country, and plans are already being made elsewhere to follow the example. This Society, therefore (though not in its corporate capacity), has been the pioneer of a new movement, which will probably have considerable influence in developing artistic taste.

“The Catalogue of the Books in the Society’s Library, the compilation of which was undertaken by the late Mr. Chas.

Calvert Eden, a member of the Committee, whose death within the last year we much deplore, has been completed by your able Curator, Mr. Bidgood.

“Your Museum has been enriched during the year by a handsome donation of fossils from Mr. J. D. Pring. Your Committee take the opportunity of saying that your Geological Museum is not so complete as it should be, and contributions of fossils are still much wanted.

“The Council record with deep regret the death of Sir Wm. Miles, of Leigh Court, one of the original Members, and for many years a Vice-President of the Society. The Society has also to regret the loss of the Rev. George Williams, whose ripe and varied scholarship, and genial wit, so often added to the profit and pleasure of our Annual Meetings.”

Colonel PINNEY, in moving the adoption of the Report, expressed the obligations of the Society to Mr. Surtees for reading the Report. He was happy to find that the Museum at Taunton was going on in a tolerably flourishing condition. He was there a day or two ago, and saw that some buildings had been taken down, and a small window inserted. He did not know whether this was done under the control of any architect, but it struck him they were going on a little in a patch-work kind of way. It seemed to him that it would be better to proceed upon some plan, instead of putting in a window here and there, as at present, for they might afterwards have to regret the damage done to the old building. He was afraid they had not funds enough for the necessary purposes at present, but, perhaps, some lady present might give them an anonymous donation of a thousand pounds to carry out the work. He merely threw this out as a hint.

Mr. SURTEES said the window had been put in for the purpose of giving light. It was placed in its position with the consent of Mr. G. T. Clark, an authority in these matters, and with the sanction of Mr. Spencer. Mr. Clark was one of the best authorities in the kingdom on Castles.



The PRESIDENT then called on the Rev. F. BROWN to read the Treasurers'

## Financial Statement.

*The Treasurers in Account with the Somersetshire Archæological and Natural History Society.*

DR.				CR.			
1877. Aug 2.	£	s	d	1877-8.	£	s	d
By Balance ... ..	57	7	6	To Expenses attending Annual Meeting,			
„ Subscriptions ... ..	205	10	6	Travelling, &c. ... ..	15	2	0
„ Entrance Fees ... ..	15	10	0	„ Stationery, Printing, &c. ... ..	14	8	6
„ Excursion Tickets ... ..	21	15	0	„ Coal, Gas, Water ... ..	22	6	7
„ Museum Admission Fees... ..	22	8	3	„ New Cases, Repairs, &c. ... ..	8	10	0
„ Sale of Volumes of Pro-				„ Purchase of Books, Specimens, &c....	6	5	4
ceedings ... ..	3	15	6	„ Balance of Account for Printing			
				Vol. XXII. ... ..	49	5	7
				„ On Account of Printing Vol. XXIII.	40	0	0
				„ Illustrations ... ..	8	14	0
				„ Curator's Salary, 1 year to Midsr. 1878	85	0	0
				„ Purchase of Index Volumes ... ..	6	5	0
				„ Subscription to Harleian Society, 1878	1	1	0
				„ Ditto to Ray Society, 1878 ... ..	1	1	0
				„ Ditto to Palæontographical Society,			
				1878 ... ..	1	1	0
				„ Insurance ... ..	7	6	0
				„ Rates and Taxes ... ..	12	15	0
				„ Postage, Carriage, &c. ... ..	7	11	10
				„ Sundries ... ..	19	10	0
				„ Balance ... ..	45	12	7
	£	326	6 9		£	326	6 9

H. & H. J. BADCOCK, *Treasurers.*

Examined, compared with the vouchers, and found correct, August 23rd, 1878.

WM. P. PINCHARD,  
THOS. MEYLER.

### Taunton Castle Purchase Fund.

*Treasurers' Account to Aug. 23rd, 1878.*

<i>Receipts.</i>		<i>£</i>	<i>s</i>	<i>d</i>	<i>Expenditure.</i>		<i>£</i>	<i>s</i>	<i>d</i>
By Donations	...	12	10	0	To Balance, Aug. 2nd, 1877	...	226	3	1
„ Bridgwater Local Committee	...	21	0	0	„ Pulling down old buildings, sorting and stacking materials, excavating and levelling the yard, laying pavement and building walls, &c.	...	117	11	0
„ Proceeds of Fancy Ball, held at Taunton, 20th Dec., 1877	...	38	7	6	„ Repairs to Buildings, &c.	...	18	11	3
„ Sale of old materials	...	47	14	0	„ Repairs to Exchequer Tower	...	1	7	0
„ Rents	...	111	15	5	„ New stone window, and repairing old oak door	...	16	4	11
„ Balance	...	235	19	6	„ Engraving brass plate for Jones Memorial, and fixing	...	11	18	3
					„ Castle Hall Expenses:—				
					Attendance, &c.	...	£7	7	3
					Gas	...	8	0	8
							15	7	11
					„ Insurance	...	4	0	6
					„ Rates and Taxes	...	11	18	3
					„ Interest on Borrowed Money	...	44	1	9
					„ Cheque book	...	2	0	
<hr/>									
<i>£ 467 5 11</i>							<i>£ 467</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>11</i>

1878. Aug. 23rd.

Balance	...	...	...	...	235	19	0
Loan	...	...	...	...	700	0	0
Total amount due to Stuckey's Banking Company	...	...	...	...	£935	19	0

H. & H. J. BADCOCK, *Treasurers.*

23rd Aug., 1878. Examined, compared with the vouchers,  
and found correct.

WM. P. PINCHARD,  
THOS. MEYLER.

On the motion of Mr. J. BUSH, seconded by Mr. E. GREEN, the Treasurers' Reports were adopted.

On the motion of Mr. W. MÜLLER, seconded by Mr. J. BATTEN, the Vice-Presidents of the Society were re-elected, with the addition of Bishop Clifford and Mr. A. Malet.

Mr. H. E. BENNETT, in proposing the re-election of the Treasurers, observed that the financial affairs of the Society could not be in better hands than those of the Messrs. Badcock, who had so long and ably managed them, and who took so deep an interest in the welfare of the Society.

The Rev. Dr. GOODFORD, the Provost of Eton, seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Bishop CLIFFORD proposed the re-election of the Hon. General Secretaries—Rev. W. Hunt, Mr. O. W. Malet, and Mr. C. J. Turner, observing that the manner in which the *Proceedings* were drawn up, the increase in the numbers and efficiency of the Society, and the general life and energy which were conspicuous in all its doings, were to be ascribed to the exertions and popularity of its Secretaries.

The proposition was seconded by Col. PINNEY, and carried unanimously.

The PRESIDENT proposed the re-election of the Local Secretaries, with the addition of Mr. H. Dyne and Mr. W. Müller, and spoke of the interest and care which these gentlemen had manifested in the preparations they had made for this meeting, and which he believed would be amply repaid by success.

Col. PINNEY seconded the proposition, which was carried unanimously.

The Committee was re-appointed on the motion of Mr. HOBHOUSE, seconded by Mr. HUTCHINGS.

Bishop CLIFFORD proposed the re-appointment of Mr. W. Bidgood as Assistant-Secretary and Curator of the Museum. Every one who had anything to do with the Society knew that Mr. Bidgood did by far the greater part of the work—and it

was no light work—connected with it, and he did it most efficiently and to the satisfaction of every one.

Mr. SURTEES seconded the motion, remarking that the Committee would often be at a great loss without Mr. Bidgood. The motion was carried unanimously.

The Rev. J. COLEMAN moved,—“That the Council be empowered to make arrangements for the next Annual Meeting, and to elect a President.”

Col. PINNEY thought that the Society ought to meet at Dulverton, as had indeed been often proposed. He was aware that Mr. Hunt had each year considered that there was insufficient accommodation. Now he believed that there was a good hotel there. The country was beautiful, and there were plenty of things to see. It was possible that the Earl of Carnarvon might be persuaded to take the office of President, and, if so, they could never have a better one. If it was true that the accommodation was insufficient, or taken up by sportsmen, why should not the visitors camp out? Camping out was in fashion just now, and would be a new feature in the Society's meetings.

Mr. H. DYNE said that he did not think that it would be altogether an agreeable feature, though it would certainly be a new one. He had had some experience of camping out, and did not think that ladies would like it, however well it might suit gentlemen; but, as for that, he could assure the meeting that it was not without serious drawbacks. He seconded the proposition of Mr. Coleman.

Mr. SURTEES considered that camping out would not be a desirable experiment. If the Society visited Glastonbury they might have the great advantage of hearing the rest of Mr. Freeman's exhaustive monograph on King Ine, should that gentleman then be in stronger health than was unfortunately the case at present. He thought that the matter had better be left to the Council.

The motion of Mr. Coleman was, after a little further discussion, put to the meeting, and carried unanimously.

The PRESIDENT then read his

## *Inaugural Address.*

IT is not without much hesitation that I have yielded to the flattering desire of your Committee, and accepted the high honour of presiding at your annual meeting this day.

The Members of this Society have heard from time to time addresses on ecclesiastical architecture, and on the ancient history of our country, from authors whose works on these subjects are held in high estimation wherever English literature is known and valued.

It would be invidious to mention individuals where so many, whether from learned leisure or even from among the urgent demands of busy life, have filled our annual volumes with papers full of interest and instruction on archæology, geology, and other subjects of scientific research.

Although a life of professional occupation has not qualified me for such a post as that which I have the honour to fill this day, yet I feel that the Somersetshire Archæological and Natural History Society is one which has claims on every one who, in however humble a way, can promote its continued prosperity and usefulness.

Having for a large period of my life resided in this division of our county, I shall beg leave to offer some information on the objects to be visited, such as may, I hope, be acceptable at least to such of my hearers who have been invited to attend from more distant localities.

The town of Bruton and its neighbourhood have been well chosen for a visit from the Society. Its fine church and tower, the secondary tower, the monuments of the Lords Berkeley of Stratton; the columbarry of the Abbot, his old house in the main street with his arms, and those of the De Moyons, the founders of the monastery, the initials and badge of Prior John Henton, the last head but two of the house; the huge



buttressed wall inclosing the vicarage, but not now required to protect the worthy Vicar from Danes, or Thanes, nor yet (if the parish registers are to be believed) from the assaults of his once pugnacious neighbours of Batcombe;—these are objects upon which I hope some special paper may be given; they speak of the importance and antiquity of the town.<sup>1</sup>

The neighbourhood also will afford us the opportunity of making several interesting excursions.

Such are those proposed to be made to Witham and Stavordale, to Pen-Selwood, and to Penridge, the field of so many contests between British and Anglo-Saxons, and afterwards between English and Danes.

Such are also the Penpits, the origin of which, whether as hut-circles, the rude habitations of the prehistoric tribes, or as impediments to the charge of cavalry, or simply as quarries, has been the subject of much variety of opinion; and if the weather be fine, the charming views from the ridge over the hills and vales of Somersætia to the west (the “*æstiva regio*” of Gildas), and on the opposite side into the colder region of Dorset towards Shaftesbury, and the vale of Blackmore. These will prove to general visitors agreeable and refreshing objects in the intervals between visits to British camps and ruined or restored relics of architecture.

To-day, immediately after the conclusion of this address, we shall visit a church belonging formerly to a little Carthusian convent, consisting of a Prior and twelve Canons, at Witham. I am old enough to remember the venerable form of this little church, before scarcely any repairs, and certainly before any restoration had overtaken it. It was then a very interesting relic, with a nave, little Norman windows with deep splays, a curiously groined stone roof, a simple bell-turret, and an apse inclosing a table and a chair—this was the little court where

(1). From documents, of which copies may be seen in Vol. XIX. of our *Proceedings*, it appears that between 1221 and 1453 “Bruton” is spelt in nine different ways!

wills were proved and marriage-licenses issued to the inhabitants of Friary (la frarie), and to those of Charterhouse on Mendip, which was a cell attached to this monastery. There was another branch of the same fraternity at Hinton near Bath, which is known to this day as Hinton Charterhouse. Witham is said to have been the *first* position occupied by this monastic order in England; in fact, this convent was founded only about 100 years after the original settlement of this denomination of monks at the *Grande Chartreuse*, in the diocese of Grenoble.<sup>2</sup> About forty years ago it was found that the little church, the chapel of the old convent, was not large enough to contain the increased numbers of the parishioners; a north aisle was then built, and at the west end, a Georgian tower, not in harmony with the original architecture. Forty years have made a great advance in architectural knowledge. The present restoration has the merit of being an effort to renew the enlarged building, with reproduction, as far as could be ascertained, of the original features and characteristics of the church. In 1181, Henry II gave demesne lands, in this and some neighbouring parishes, to the monastery—a farm belonging to Lord Cork, in Marston parish, which I once served as rector, is called *Monks Ham*, and has traces of fishponds which, as tradition reports, belonged in former days to this monastic settlement.

After the dissolution the lands and advowson of Witham were given by Henry VIII to Ralph Hopton, whose descendant was created Lord Hopton by Charles I; they then passed by a female to the Wyndham family. Sir Charles Wyndham, Bart., who became afterwards by patent, Earl of Egremont, sold the estate to William Beckford, Esq., Lord Mayor of London. In a volume, printed for private circulation only, by the late Sir Richard C. Hoare, there is a plan and elevation of a magnificent mansion designed to be built adjoining to the Park of Witham by Mr. Beckford, but never completed. Subsequently the materials

(2). An early Prior of this monastery was St. Hugh, afterwards Bishop of Lincoln.

were removed to build the house in Wiltshire. The eccentric author of *Vathek*, it is well known, preferred the picturesque site near Hindon for his new residence, with its lofty embattled tower and marvellous collection of works of art and vertu.

The Committee have designed for us on Wednesday an excursion to a fine encampment of the Belgic-British period, known as *Smalldon*. This camp is a remarkable strong-hold on an outlying spur, connected with the Mendip range. I believe it has never been visited by our Society. The declivity of the hill in the front and on the sides is very steep, and is further strengthened by a vallum. On the east, the *only accessible* point, a deep foss and lofty rampart protect the entrances. In one of the barrows, of which traces still exist in the centre of the area, several British remains were found by the late Rev. John Skinner, of Camerton, among which was an urn of good workmanship and form, (of which a drawing is now suspended on the wall.)

This camp "is another instance how judiciously the ancient engineers of this island, before the invasion of the Romans, selected their posts for vigilance, communication, and defence."

In our circuit on the same day we shall hope to see some churches which will well maintain the character of our county for ecclesiastical buildings, particularly Batcombe, Evercreech, and Ditchet. Evercreech has reminded some of Wrington, the queen of our Somerset churches; and Ditchet has some very peculiar features. It is a cross church. I had once the pleasure of taking the late Sir G. G. Scott to see it. The choir, with its fine east window, the clerestory lights on the side walls of the chancel, with the cinque-foil architrave over each, interested him much. The introduction of these windows is attributed to the Abbot of Glastonbury, John de Selwood, who was Abbot from 1456 to 1493; his initials are sculptured on the parapet, marking well the period of this addition to the church.

The particulars of this church will be given by Mr. Ferry, jun., who, as representing his father, the diocesan architect, has kindly offered us his services as our guide this day.

The Lordship of the parish of Ditchat is said to have been given to the Abbey of Glastonbury, by Ernulf, a Saxon chief, as early as A.D. 851.

At the dissolution of the monastery the advowson of the living was sold to Sir Ralph Hopton, who resided in the old manor house, near the church, while his new house at Evercreech Park was building. In 1669 Mr. Dawe purchased the manor, with a moiety of the manor of Alhampton; a large portion of which manors was sold in 1726 to the Rev. Thomas Leir, whose descendant, the Rev. W. M. Leir, holds at present the rectory and one portion of the manor. Some remains of the Abbot's residence are still to be seen in the rectory.

Notices of Evercreech Church, and of the church and history of Castle Cary, will be given on the locality of each.

A paper on the history of the Manor of Castle Cary, and an appendix on the church, will be found in the volumes of the *Proceedings* of our Society in the years 1856-7.

I will take this opportunity to mention, which I do with much pleasure, that the Rev. Jas. Bennett, Rector of South Cadbury, has made some diggings on Cadbury Camp, and in company with Professor Rolleston and General Lane Fox, on Sigwell Hill, in the same neighbourhood. I need not enter into the results of this exploration, as Mr. J. Bennett promises to read a paper descriptive of them at the meeting of this evening. Mr. Bennett has also received permission from Captain Hervey Mildmay to examine and catalogue the MSS., autographs, and other papers at Hazlegrove. Some of these memorials are of much interest, many are of the later years of Queen Elizabeth—among them a copy of verses never yet published, which there are grounds for believing to be from the pen of Sir Walter Raleigh. The examination and arrangement of MSS. is a very useful department of archæology, and one which may be well recommended to our members when the opportunity is given them. Thus, in the collection of Lord Ilchester, which may, perhaps, be opened some day to the inspection of our Society,



there is a very perfect cartulary of the Abbey of Glastonbury. You will, doubtless, recollect the interesting account given us by Canon Jackson of his discoveries at Longleat, especially of that remarkable volume of the 12th century, containing a register of Glastonbury Abbey, with the names of the tenants drawn up by order of the Abbot, Henry de Soliaco.

On the wall is a fac-simile of another curious letter discovered by Mr. Jackson in the same archives, viz., a letter from Amy Robsart, dated Cumnor, and showing by the signatures that she was the *wife* of Dudley, Earl of Leicester.

I may mention here the discovery of another paper at Longleat, not indeed so important as those just alluded to, but which occurred under my own eyes. A box of papers was brought to Mr. Jackson to be examined; in turning them over a small document was found, of which the seal had never been broken. It was addressed to the "Master and Scholars of Wells," meaning the Sub-dean (as is afterwards explained), and Canons. It was very clearly written in Latin, and related to an arbitration respecting the Church of "Basslake," now Basselog, near Newport, in Monmouthshire, which belonged anciently to the Abbey of Glastonbury. The Bishop of Llandaff, on behalf of the Abbey of Caerleon, claimed the patronage of Basslake. Lord Bath having given his permission, the seal of this ancient document was broken, and the paper was found to be a citation of the Treasurer and Sub-dean, and Master Robert de Berkeley, canons of Wells, the judges, in the words of the original document, "*judicum, a sede Apostolicâ deputatorum, super concordia factâ, inter Abbat<sup>m</sup> & Conventum Glaston., et Abbatem et Convent<sup>m</sup> Caerleon, de decennis pertinentibus ad ecclesiam de Basslake.*" It was curious that this ancient document, when *at least* 600 years old, should be opened and identified after so long a slumber, in the presence of a Canon of Wells.

On Thursday it is proposed for us to visit, first, the remains of

Stavordale Priory.<sup>3</sup> This sequestered retreat amidst overhanging woods, was founded by a Lord of Castle Cary, who obtained a license to cede certain of his lands to the Priory at Stavordale near Wincanton, that Divine service might be performed in their little church daily. The monks of this Priory are said to have been black friars of the order of St. Augustin. In a manuscript, however, belonging to the Dean and Chapter of Wells, I found that the Prior of Stavordale in the year 1263 is called of the order of "St. Victor." It was a poor priory, and in consequence of their poverty both the rectorial and vicarial tithes of the adjoining town of Wincanton (Wincaleton) were appropriated to them by the King. Hence, at the dissolution, the officiating minister of Wincanton was left with a very small remuneration for his services, and might have reason to lament his vicinity to Stavordale in the well known exclamation of the poet,

"Mantua vae miseræ nimium vicina Cremonæ!"

Your attention at Stavordale will be called to the remains of the Church, now a barn, and in the dairy and upper room to some beautiful brackets, and heraldic sculptures, one, especially, representing the arms of the several founders—the lion, of the Lovell-Percevals, the shield parted per 2 chevrons of the St. Maurs, and the besants with a canton ermine, the shield of the Lords Zouche.

The lords of Castle Cary succeeding to the Lovells, seem to have inherited the charitable interest of the original founders for their priory of Stavordale.

The heights to which we shall mount from the lowlands round Stavordale seem still to be clothed with relics of the Great Forest.

(3). There is some difficulty in respect to the foundation of Stavordale Priory. The notice in the Wells manuscript speaks of a Prior of the order of St. Victor as the head of this Priory in 1263. Phelps gives this as the date of its foundation by Lord Lovell of Castle Cary, but does not give his authority for this statement. Tanner, in *Notitia Monastica*, says that Stavordale was founded by a Sir William Zouche. In 24th Edw. III, 1350, a Richard Lord Lovell gave some lands and a mill to this Priory. In the reign of Richard II, a Lord St. Maur was patron.

In the village of Penselwood the church has a doorway of fine Anglo-Norman work, which would have been more interesting to our Society if its surface had not been cleansed with too much care.

This district will remind the student of early English history of several important battles. At Peonne, Penna, or Pen<sup>4</sup> in A.D. 658, Ceanwealh, King of the West Saxons, attacked the British on the brow to the south-west of the village, and driving them before him extended the boundaries of his kingdom to the river Parret.

On these heights, too, the gallant Edmund Ironside fought the Danes A.D. 1016, and humbled, for a time, the raven ensign of the invaders before the furious onset of the English.

It was in Selwood forest that the best and greatest of English sovereigns collected his scattered army from various quarters and sheltered them, preparatory to the great battle with the Danes in the year 878.

I will not enter now into a discussion on the point mooted by a Right Reverend Chairman on a former occasion, as to whether the Æthandune, from which this great battle takes its name, is the village under the white horse near Bratton, or whether it is another Edington, situated nearer to the river Parret. However that may be it is impossible to pass through Selwood Forest without a thought upon one of the most memorable and decisive conflicts of English history. And to whose mind has not the picture been reproduced, of the victorious King, standing shortly after the battle as sponsor to the Danish chief at the font of Aller. And on recalling that impressive scene, we may surely be allowed to hope that Guthrum and his hardy fellow-soldiers were persuaded, as much by the character and conduct of Alfred, as by actual stipulation, to embrace the religion of his generous conqueror? And here I must congratulate those Members of our Society who have, with others, commemorated by a successful celebration the thousandth anniversary of the peace signed at

(4). Pen is well-known to signify "a summit."

Wedmore after the victory of Æthandune—a peace which was converted, by the wise policy of the Great Alfred, into a permanent conciliation of races, the Anglo-Danes becoming, by this treaty, fellow citizens with the English, and gradually, like the Normans at another period of our history, being absorbed into one great empire.

From the Penpits we shall proceed to Stourhead, where, by the courtesy of Lady Hoare, the gallery of paintings, and the gardens with the cross once belonging to Bristol, will be opened to the Society. This cross was first erected, with effigies of King John and Henry III at the close of the 14th century; it was afterwards enlarged, and figures of other Sovereigns added at later periods.

As to the geology of the district in which we are assembled, I will only say that Bruton is situated upon that line of oolite which runs across England from the N.E. to the S.W., or as some have described it, which accompanies a line of lias passing in that direction, of which the inferior oolite forms the eastern boundary, and the red marl the western.

Not many yards from the place in which we are met, a very remarkable fossil was found, which is now in the British Museum. It was the large cone of a fir; the side which was not attached to the matrix, being protected in a cavity by the covering stone, was in a perfect state of preservation, so that Dr. Hooker, to whom it was sent, could pronounce it to be identical with the recent cones of the *Pinus Norfolkensis*, the fir-tree of Norfolk Island.

Among the specimens of organic remains which I have sent to the Local Museum you will see some from the chalk of Berks and Wilts, and some from the upper and lower green sand which forms the ridge of hills immediately above us. I may especially notice the beautiful little fossils from Shute farm, near Horningsham, where the echinoderms, corals, bivalves, &c., were turned up in abundance whenever the fields were ploughed. At Steeple Ashton, not far from Edington, there seems to have



been an atoll, or coral island; in the Local Museum you will see some good specimens from this locality; as well as, from the Bradford clay, of pear encrinites (apiocrinites). There are also some of the fossils from the inferior oolites, particularly a fine pair of chambered ammonites from Shepton Montague; fossils from the lias; with ferns and reeds, &c., from the coal measures.

But I must detain you no longer with descriptions of localities. Let me, however, as one of the oldest members of this Society, take this opportunity to say that some of the happiest days of my social life have been passed in the friendly gatherings of this Institution, and, under its guidance, in excursions to various objects of interest in this county.

During the 20 years which have elapsed since I last attended a meeting of the Society in this town, several valued Members have been removed from us. These friends, however, have not passed away without leaving their marks in our annals, in the shape of literary contributions of great interest and merit.

Permit me then to commend this Society to the continued patronage of this county—let me commend it especially to the cordial support of my brethren of the clergy. No positions are more favourable than theirs for contributing usefully to local history and topography; geology too, natural history and botany, are subjects for which the rural clergy have facilities beyond those who inhabit populous towns; and on these subjects new features will not fail to present themselves, or new testimonies to old truths in every place; and in return, connection with the Society and its Museum will place its members “au courant” with many of the most interesting discoveries and inventions of the age.

It is among the advantages of institutions such as ours that they encourage the formation of scientific habits; I mean by this the habit of noticing all that we see or hear, and of comparing one thing with another. One may well think that Shakspeare had such a case in view when he describes the contemplative man as finding

“Tongues in the trees, books in the running brooks,  
Sermons in stones, and good in everything.”

To a man, says Sir John Herschel, who “accustoms himself to trace the operation of general causes where the unenquiring eye perceives nothing of novelty or beauty, every object which falls in his way elucidates some principle, and impresses him with some new sense of the order and harmony of the universe.”

We would have none content to walk about in a state which that remarkable man, The Scotch Naturalist, calls “a daylight somnambulism,” “that is a state when people have their eyes and ears open, and yet neither see nor hear anything which interests them in the marvellous works of God in nature.”<sup>5</sup>

The subjects with which your Society is conversant open an exhaustless store of recreation and improvement, and will lead its members, whether of the clergy or the laity, and, let me make no exceptions, of ladies also, whose auspicious presence it is always gratifying to us to welcome on these occasions, to constant sources of rational entertainment. Concerning which I know not that I can conclude in more appropriate words than those of the accomplished Roman, “*Hæc studia adolescentiam alunt, senectutem oblectant, secundas res ornant, adversis solatium et perfugium præbent, delectant domi, non impediunt foris, pernoctant nobiscum, peregrinantur, rusticantur;*” *i.e.*, if I may venture to render into English the elegant Latin of Cicero, “These pursuits are the food of our youth, and the delight of old age, they are an ornament in prosperity, a resource and solace in adversity, they are among the charms of home which we may take with us abroad, sweet companions by night and by day, in foreign travel, and in rural retirement.”

Bishop CLIFFORD proposed, and Colonel PINNEY seconded, a vote of thanks to the President for his comprehensive address, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. H. DYNE kindly entertained the numerous party at luncheon at his house. After this the Members of the Society, and others, left for Witham by rail.

(5). See Smiles's *Life of Thomas Edward*.

### **The Carthusian Church at Witham,**

built in the 12th century, and recently restored, was the object of the visit. At the Dissolution the manor and rectory of Witham, with the site and remains of the monastery, were granted to Robert Hopton, Esquire. Of his family was Sir Ralph Hopton, Lord Hopton of Stratton, famous in the Civil Wars. By the marriage of his sister, he leaving no children, the estate passed to the Wyndhams.

Bishop CLIFFORD said that he had received a paper from Mr. Hunt, who had asked him to read it, as he was not able to be with them himself in time to do so.

Mr. HUNT's paper contained some remarks on the vaulting of the roof, and was to this effect :

#### **On the Stone Vaulting of the Carthusian Church at Witham.**

The most interesting architectural question connected with this Church is the possibility of a change in the design of the interior roof. Whether a change has been made or not, it is probable that the present stone vaulting is the work of S. Hugh of Grenoble. The Carthusian Order was founded in 1080, by S. Bruno, a native of Cologne, who established a monastery at Chartreux, in the diocese of Grenoble, which then formed part of the Empire. S. Hugh was deeply impressed with the sanctity and discipline of this Order, and left the house of Canons to which he belonged, to enter the Chartreuse. The Order was not introduced into England for nearly a hundred years. Then Henry II began to build this house at Witham, and dedicated it to the honour of the Blessed Virgin, S. John Baptist and All Saints. The Order did not obtain any great share of popularity in England. Only nine Carthusian houses were established in this country. Two of these are in this county—the one at which we are met, the other at Hinton, called Locus or Atrium Dei. The king met with no small difficulties in the management of his new foundation. The first prior refused to stay in

England and face these difficulties ; the second died shortly after his coming hither. Henry began to fear for the success of his work. Happily a new name, that of Hugh of Avalun, now Procurator of the Chartreuse, was suggested to him. This suggestion was made by a noble of Maurienne. Mr. Dimock has shown how this fact points out the probable date of the invitation to S. Hugh, for in 1173 Henry was in treaty with the Count of Maurienne concerning the proposed marriage of his daughter to John the King's son, and in 1176 this scheme was at an end, and John made another match. Henry sent Reginald, Bishop of Bath, to beg Hugh to take charge of his new house, and the bishop succeeded in his mission, though not without considerable difficulty. Hugh came over, and was made prior, probably, as Mr. Dimock points out, in 1176. He found the few monks who were still on the spot dwelling in wooden sheds enclosed by a small mound and paling. Not even the sites of the conventual buildings, of the major and minor churches, of the cells and the rest were as yet marked out. In a Carthusian house there were two sets of buildings : the one was for the monks who were in Holy Orders, and who lived a purely spiritual life ; the other for the lay brethren or conversi, who carried on the secular work and service of the establishment. Each of these bodies had their own Church as well as their separate buildings. If, as Mr. Parker thinks almost certain, the remains of the monastic buildings, which still exist in the farm close by, were part of the lay brethren's dwellings or the guest house, then the Church in which we are met would be their Church, the *minor ecclesia* of the monastery. This is the more likely because, as Mr. Dimock points out in the *Metrical Life of S. Hugh*, the *major ecclesia* is spoken of as a Church with aisles—

“Fabrica consurgit, multo sudata labore  
 Artificum : solidasque bases, stabilesque columnas  
 Machina sortitur, nullum lapsura per ævum,”

while the Church now standing has no aisles. But there was a village here, and no doubt a Parish Church, before the foundation



of the monastery. In a note to Mr. Dimock's preface to the *Magna Vita S. Hugonis*, he says, "As solitude was an essential requisite to the early Carthusians, his (S. Hugh's) first act was to have the inhabitants all removed to other places ; and it is just possible that, finding their Parish Church newly built and fit for the purposes of the convent, he retained it as one of the Churches of his new foundation. This, however, is very improbable ; and, indeed, our author seems clearly to intimate that Hugh built both the Churches, as well as the other parts of the two mansions." In support of this view Mr. Dimock refers to two passages, one of which speaks of the site of the Churches as not fixed at the time of the arrival of S. Hugh. "Neque enim diffinitum erat usque adhuc, ubi major, ubi minor ecclesia, illa monachorum cellis et claustris, hæc cum fratrum domunculis et hospitum diversoriis, aptius construi debuisset." (lib. 2, cap. 5). The other passage only speaks generally of the completion of the buildings. "Ipse, completa jam ædificatione utriusque mansionis, fratrum scilicet et monachorum, solitæ sanctæ conversationis exercitiis, quo liberius, eo et impensius vacabat." Neither of these quotations seems to me to be at all conclusive against the adaptation of a building already existing. When S. Hugh came nothing had been decided : he may have fixed on the Parish Church already standing as the *minor ecclesia* of his new house : and, if the present Church bears marks of any changes such as S. Hugh would have been almost sure to have made in an existing English Church, then it appears to me that it is most probable that the building in which we are met is the old Parish Church of Witham, converted by S. Hugh to the use of his Monastery, but which has since the Dissolution returned to its original purpose. Such a change can, I think, be traced in the substitution of the stone vaulting for the older wooden roof.

A stone vault would be an unusual covering for a Church built by an English architect ; it would be the one which would most probably be part of the design of an architect from the continent. S. Hugh came into England, as Mr. Parker has

pointed out to me, at the time when the choir of Canterbury was being vaulted over by William of Sens. The choir of Conrad was destroyed by fire in 1174, and the work of rebuilding was at once entrusted by Archbishop Robert to William of Sens, who designed the stone vaulting and carried on the work, until, in 1178, he was disabled by a fall from the scaffolding. This was probably the first attempt made in England to cover over a large space with stone vaulting. Though this, certainly the noblest of roofs, occurs frequently in early as well as in late Norman work, it is found only over small spaces, such as apses and aisles. I do not know a single case in England of a Norman nave covered with a vault, which can be proved to be the original roof, except the Chapel of S. Peter ad Vincula in the White Tower ; and this, from its smallness and its situation, cannot be reckoned as an exception. On the continent the case is different. In the large Romanesque Churches of Germany stone vaulting over the nave is common, and the shafts from which the vaults rise prove, (if indeed there could be any question about it,) that this was the original form of roof. Vaulting is the rule in the Romanesque Churches of Italy. In Normandy these Romanesque stone vaults are found (among other examples,) on a grand scale in the naves of S. Stephens and the Holy Trinity at Caen, and, though it is possible that the present vaults may not be original, yet there are indications in the arrangement of the buildings, which prove that they replace other stone vaults of the same date as the rest of the Churches. If, then, S. Hugh used a pre-existing Church for one of the Churches of his new foundation, he probably found one with a wooden roof ; and in adapting and altering it to suit his own taste he changed this roof into a stone vault. Nor does this preference depend for its proof solely on *a priori* grounds however strong. The *Metrical Life* tells us that the *major ecclesia* was vaulted :

“Nam testudo riget sursum, pariesque deorsum,  
Non putrescibili ligno, sed perpete saxo.

The Church, if it existed before the coming of the new prior,

was no doubt built in accordance with the usual English ideas, but when S. Hugh came over he would bring with him the tastes which were common in Burgundy and the neighbouring lands. The English architect was accustomed to the open timber roofs of the naves of English Churches. He probably looked upon them as a means of adding light and dignity to the building, while he considered vaulting more appropriate to the smaller areas of apse or aisle. To the foreigner, on the other hand, these timber roofs must have seemed mean; they must have suggested the idea of mere temporary coverings to a man whose eyes were wont to look on the solid and majestic vaulting of some Burgundian nave.

Is there any indication of such a change as I have supposed in the design of the roof of this Church? I have lately received a letter on this subject from my respected friend and instructor, J. H. Parker, C.B., whose weak health unfortunately obliges him to decline the fatigue of attending our meeting. In this he says, "At Lincoln we find that the walls of the choir of S. Hugh were begun and partly carried up for wooden roofs only. During the progress of the work stone vaults were decided upon. Greater strength was needed to carry the weight of these vaults, and we, accordingly, find that the walls were doubled in thickness. This was managed in a clumsy way, a new wall was added inside the older one, and buttresses were built on the outside to help to carry the weight." Mr. Parker thinks that a change of the same kind has been made here. S. Hugh, who insisted on the stone vault over the choir of his Cathedral Church at Lincoln, was no doubt equally determined that his lesser as well as his greater Church at Witham should be covered with that roof, which to his eyes must have seemed most decorous. An interesting indication of this change still remains. On a visit which I paid to this Church during the progress of its late restoration in company with Mr. Parker, he pointed out to me a doorway in the north wall in the interior of the nave. Of this doorway there is no trace in the wall on the

outside. S. Hugh then found this Church built for a timber roof, probably covered with one. He naturally disliked this, and insisted upon stone vaulting; the walls were not strong enough to carry the increased weight, and, as he afterwards added an inside wall to the Lincoln choir, so here he added an outside wall to uphold the vaulting with which he covered the nave of his *minor ecclesia*. Mr. Parker is inclined to the opinion, which is, I believe, held by the able architect of the restoration, that this change was made in a Church which already belonged to the monks and had been built by them at the first foundation of the house, and used by them up to this time. It is thought that S. Hugh must have found a Conventual Church already built here, or else how could the monks have worshipped during the rule of the two earlier priors? This difficulty arises from being misled by the fact that S. Hugh was the third prior, and thus exaggerating the time which passed between the foundation of this house and his appointment to rule over it. In point of fact we need not trouble ourselves about these two earlier priors, for they probably held office for a very short time. Of the first the *Magna Vita* says, "Qui vero prædictis fratribus prior fuerat designatus, ad breve vix tempus in Anglia degere acquievit." And when we read that among the causes of his disgust was "*ritus gentis alienigenæ*," we may be pretty sure that he, at least, had no Church of his own in which he could order matters to his mind: indeed it is abundantly evident that he was disgusted with all things. Of the second the same authority says, "*qui tædio simili affectus, morte beata finem laborum et vitæ initium citius accepit.*" Besides this the words I have already quoted—"neque enim diffinitum erat usque adhuc ubi major ubi minor ecclesia \* \* \* aptius construi debuisset"—are conclusive against there being any Conventual Church here on the arrival of S. Hugh; but they by no means exclude the probability of there being a parochial Church here, which he afterwards determined to use as the *minor ecclesia* of his monastery. This indeed seems to me to have been the case. The vaulting is



evidently an addition ; it is no necessary part of the Church, for there are no vaulting shafts. The walls are evidently doubled ; the inside was finished first, the outside was added afterwards, blocking up the little doorway on the north side of the nave. This was done for strength to uphold the new vault. There was then an older Church, built for, and no doubt fitted with, an open timber roof. This older Church was not Conventual, for the very sites of the two Conventual Churches were not fixed upon at the time of the coming of S. Hugh. The Church, then, in which we are met, was probably the old Parish Church : its roof was changed and its walls were doubled by S. Hugh, and it was made the lesser Church of the Charterhouse here. It has now returned to its earlier uses.

The PRESIDENT next requested Mr. W. White, F.S.A., the architect of the restoration, to give some account of the work lately done.

Mr. WHITE said : I am glad to have heard the remarks and the letter relative to the work of St. Hugh, before entering upon my description. The suggestion as to the probable thickening of the walls to carry the vaulting was, I think, first made by myself. To this I shall refer presently, but it is necessary first to call attention to what seems an error with reference to Hugh being the first abbot, as has been stated, instead of being, as will clearly appear from history, the third. I remark this for architectural reasons which will appear presently<sup>6</sup>. The date given

(6). I have since found that I misunderstood the gist of Mr. Hunt's argument. His view is a very probable one, that this was the old Parish Church converted into the *Minor Ecclesia* of the Monastery ; or, on the traditional supposition that this is only the chancel of a larger Church now destroyed, it may have been even the *Major Ecclesia*, which had pillars and aisles, the chancel being made over for conventual purposes, which was not infrequently done, as at Boxgrove, Arundel, &c. The nave in this case may have been destroyed by the decay of the roof, whilst the chancel was saved by the protection afforded by the vaulting alone. A remark made in Lewis's *Topographical Dictionary* is interesting if not wholly reliable. The italics are mine. "Here was *antiently* a nunnery ; and *subsequently*, in 1181, a monastery... .. was founded by Hen. II in honour of the Blessed Virgin, St. John the Baptist and All Saints, which at the Dissolution had a revenue of £227 1s. 8d. The ruins were taken down in 1764, and a farm house now stands upon its site."

for the mission of monks from the Royal Chartreuse is stated to be 1181 ; but it would appear, from Mr. Dimock's preface to his *History of St. Hugh*, as quoted by Mr. Parker in the appendix to his paper on the "English Origin of Gothic Architecture,"<sup>7</sup> to have been in 1175 that Hugh himself came. The establishment must have existed already for some years, for he was the third prior ; and he found the monks in a very discouraged and disorganised condition, living in temporary wooden huts. No grant of a site for a monastery had yet been made. He obtained this grant for them ; and having provided all the requisite buildings, he left them in a flourishing condition.

Now this Chapel has been supposed to have been entirely built by Hugh ; but it is not at all probable that the community could have held together in any way whatever for so many years, without having commenced their very first requisite, a Chapel for the perpetual office of their Order ; and they would commence it with the intention of giving it some degree of permanency, although they might in the first instance make only a temporary roof. And when Hugh came he would not be likely to sacrifice all that they had expended upon it, and, wishing it to be put upon a more permanent footing, and having a knowledge of vaulted construction, he would naturally wish to adopt this as the most perfect means of effecting his object. In order to carry this vaulting it was necessary to thicken the walls of the building, which was already roofed in, in some way or other. And this is the only theory which will satisfactorily account for the evident difference in date between the round-headed windows and the vaulting, which is of pointed character, and it is quite exceptional to have corbels instead of vaulting shafts at this period. Now I must ask you to keep all this in mind, as it will have a material bearing upon a number of details to which I shall have to call attention in my description of the Church, and of what has been done, to which we will now proceed.

Prior to the restoration its plan consisted only of two bays

besides the apse: we have added a third. It has been supposed to be only the portion of a larger Church. But this is impossible from its general form, proportion, and character. We found, moreover, the original half-corbel and springing of the vaulting ribs still imbedded in its original position on either side at the west end of the nave, though the west wall had been entirely removed and rebuilt in order to carry the tower, which was put up in 1828. In removing that wall to make way for the tower the builders let the vaulting of the western bay tumble down. They reconstructed it in timber framework, covered with lath and plaster, jointed to imitate stone. This we have replaced with new stone-work, to correspond with the old bays, except with regard to the vaulted surfaces, which have been executed in cut stone.

Another reason against this having been the portion only of a larger Church is, that the old marks of the sancte bell were found at the commencement of the apse. This bell would have been at the west end of the chancel had there been a nave. There might, however, have been a vestibule or narthex at the west end, such as still exists in several Churches in England. It is certain that some appendage at the west end was taken down, but there is no tradition as to what it was. Nor was it in any way a parish Church, or intended as such, till after the year 1458, when the Prior, John Porter, obtained a license to lay out a cemetery about the chapel in the Priory to bury secular persons who lived in the district, and to have a font in the chapel and a chaplain.

Unfortunately the foundations, being upon the slope of a clay hill, were insecure, and the pressure of the vaulting increased by the insecurity of roof, had thrown the walls about 10 inches out of upright on the north side and 12 inches on the south. In order to obviate this we have added massive buttresses as Hugh himself did at Lincoln; but we have made them flying buttresses, so giving greater resistance and security, and interfering less with the old work.

The vaulting is of the ordinary quadripartite form, with chamfered transverse and diagonal ribs, intersecting at apex. There are no wall ribs on either side. The filling is of a tufus stone, taken from a quarry long since exhausted in one of the neighbouring hills. The ribs are carried on a semi-octagonal corbel, consisting of abacus, bell-mould, and necking, of fine and delicate profile, with dwarf attached shafts. The finish and bond of the lower stone clearly shew that these were never carried down as vaulting shafts, as some have supposed ; and from the manner of the bonding we might well conclude that they were insertions. The square trefoil-headed double piscina on the south of the apse appears to be of the same date. The east window is an insertion of the present century. We found it necessary, however, to lower it considerably, in order to come below the wall-plate of the new roof ; and the semi-circular curve of the apse had been flattened off externally to admit this window. This curve has now been made good, but the window has been retained rather than restore what would clearly have been the original, viz., a round-headed window, making the seventh to correspond with the six side windows north and south. The east window had already been entirely removed and supplanted by another about the middle of the 15th century, there being an inner curtain rib of this date still remaining.

On the north side is a rood-loft staircase in the thickness of the wall, with upper and lower doorways of the same date, made probably by the Prior, John Porter, already referred to. Near this is a side door of earlier date, originally intended, no doubt, for communication with the monastic buildings. This doorway, finished inside with a very low segmental arch (not pointed), was blocked, and no indication remained of its exterior quoins. This doorway has been the subject of much discussion ; but upon the whole we may conclude that it was filled up by Hugh, when he thickened the walls ; for you will have observed that there is a handsome and well-cut double plinth all around the building. This plinth is one which would scarcely have been attempted by



the monks in their primary condition, and it was carried across this doorway, above the sill, in a manner which must have prevented its use.

We now come to the windows. These were supposed to be of the Georgian period. They are of somewhat ugly proportions, with round heads and large splays on the outside as well as on the inside. I found upon examination, however, that the original external rebate with fillet and part of internal splay had been cut away, the original section still remaining upon the sill nearly perfect. It would have been more satisfactory in some respects to have restored these windows, which had been thus spoilt, not only in their detail, but in their proportions also. I found, however, that their restoration would involve more destruction of existing work than I felt justified in making, and I, therefore, left them as they were. Now there is, as I said, a large splay *outside*, which is continued round the head as well as the jamb. In this arched head is a line or joint of masonry, about 11 inches from the surface of the wall, shewing a distinct outer arch built against the inner one. Several of these were somewhat displaced, and upon removing one of them I found that the inner arch had been finished complete and exposed to the surface. And it was this, first of all, that suggested to me the idea that the walls had been thickened to this extent; some of the jamb stones having been drawn or cut back for bonding. And the same thing was *attempted* on *one* of the south arches; but the builders found it better to add the arch as a separate piece of masonry, only continuing the splay to match the other. And this was doubtless done on account of the difficulty they would have had in supporting their poor rubble wall, *if the old arched head had been taken out for the purpose of making the new one*. This I consider to be one of the most interesting and remarkable features to be found in this little Church. There is a somewhat rudely chamfered set-off at the level of the sills of the windows, running all round the building. The walls above this set-off are now from 4 ft. 4 in. to 4 ft. 5 in., and below it 4 ft. 9 in. in thickness. The

whole thickness originally appears to have been but 3 ft. 5 in. There is in the body of the wall no mark of the thickening, and the mortar externally is as nearly the same in quality as in the inner part, but, perhaps, not quite so good. With such a rubble-built wall the outside facing would be easily removed to admit of being rebuilt with its increased thickness, the mortar having in it but little lime and but very little tenacity. The old putlog-holes would be used again for the scaffolding for the new thickened facing. In some cases the putlogs, not being sufficiently straight to be drawn, were cut off and left to decay in the walls, the holes elsewhere being filled in with masonry.

When the present restorations were commenced the building was covered with rough plastering. This was required to keep out the weather from the loosely-built rubble work. Much of it was falling, and the walls seemed scarcely firm enough to hold it. I was pressed to retain this or to renew it, for the sake of the protection it afforded to the walls; and also because the work was supposed to be unfit to shew, and the building to have been plastered originally. I could see, however, no direct evidence of this having been the case, and I found that a very much stronger and firmer finish could be made of it by having good mortar well pressed into the loose work and pointed. This, therefore, was effected. I do not myself see what interest there would have been in the uniformly flat surface of the plastering, or what beauty or association, except the "idea" of its having been, *perhaps*, thus rudely finished originally.

I felt the same also with reference to the modern western tower. It was an incongruous erection. Its east wall was in an insecure condition. Enlargement was required in the Church, and, in spite of what the Conservationists might say as to thus sacrificing a sacred relic of a past generation, I offer no apology for having advised its removal for the purpose of adding a bay to the Church and of building in its place a somewhat massive and lofty bell gable to carry the three old bells.

In adding this bay I have not followed the exact precedent of the old building, which would, I presume, have involved also an imitation of all the old features, even to the very thickening of the arches of the windows. But I have treated it in a manner which can in no way be mistaken for the original or confuse its history.

The most critical question with regard to the work was as to what should be done with reference to the roof. The roof was a modern one, constructed partly with old timbers on piers, built at such improper intervals as not to correspond with the main divisions of the vaulting, which was still spreading under its weight; and the piers had already separated everywhere an inch or two from the parapet. My first impression was to retain the parapet, as I had seen done at the small village Church of Easton, near Winchester, a building of somewhat earlier date than this. And it was said to have been the original treatment, though bald and ugly, with a roof of less than 45° pitch behind it. I did propose, however, to add to this a corbel table; and I proposed a roof of equilateral pitch. This steep roof was strongly opposed by some who had the best right to offer an opinion, on the ground that a Church of this date would not be likely to have a high roof. I had, however, discovered amongst the re-used timbers the portion of an old principal, with tenons for two purlins and for two collars, which shewed most unmistakably the equilateral pitch of the old roof; but upon further consideration I came to the conclusion that the parapet must be an entire innovation, and upon sending down to examine beneath the rough-cast the line of the old wall-plate was found, within a few inches of the position which I had indicated. After taking down the old parapet the original wall-plate was found crumbled to dust on the top of the wall at this height. The fact of the height of the top of the vaulting reaching above the level of the wall-plate made a tie-beam impossible, and the height of the lower collar in the old principal was just such as to escape contact with the stone work. Amongst the rubble and

rubbish filled in over the old wall-plate we found several fragments of stained glass and encaustic tiles.

The original font, evidently the one referred to as having been put up by John Porter, was found buried in the foundation of the tower on its removal. It has now been reinstated for its proper use, taking the place of a small one given when the tower was built. This modern one has been placed out of the way, in the recess of the north door before referred to.

I trust that the recent restoration is not one which can be said to have converted a 12th century into a 19th century Church, and that the history of so interesting a building, instead of being either destroyed or concealed and lost beneath the incrustations of the present day, has rather on the contrary rendered its elucidation and transmission to succeeding generations more safe and permanent than if the work had been merely patched and sustained in its old wretched state when taken in hand.

The company then paid a visit to the remains of what are held to have been either the buildings of the *Domus Conversorum* or the Guest House.

On their return they visited the

### *Parish Church of Bruton,*

where they were addressed by Mr. Carpenter, under whose directions extensive restorations had been carried out.

MR. CARPENTER said : The Church is one of the grandest examples in England of the style of architecture prevalent at the end of the 15th century, and for which Somersetshire and Dorsetshire are particularly famous ; there seems, indeed, to have been a feeling in these counties for rebuilding their Churches at this period. Here then, as in so many other Churches of the district, we do not find many traces of earlier work. At Bruton there can be no doubt that a parish Church existed from the earliest times, probably even so far back as the time of Canute and onwards, for coins were struck here at that time, and are occasionally found. In the time of the Saxons, too, the place



was of importance, for in 1005 a Benedictine Priory was established, in which great interest was felt by Ina, King of the West-Saxons, and his kinsman St. Aldhelm the first Bishop of Sherborne, in which diocese Bruton then was. Bishop Aldhelm presented a marble altar to the Abbey Church. We need not go further into the history of the Abbey than to mention that the son of Sir William de Mohun (to whom William I gave the Manor of Bruton), established in 1142 a Priory of Black Canons, on the old foundation, which, taking the style of Abbey in the time of Abbot Gilbert, was suppressed in his successor's days. Not much remains of the Abbey buildings beyond some materials re-used in the great buttressed wall next the vicarage, and the prior's house, on which are the arms and badge of the Mohuns and John Henton, prior in 1448. The Abbey property and the Manor of Bruton then passed into the hands of Sir Maurice Berkeley, standard bearer to King Henry VIII, and were subsequently purchased by Sir Henry Hoare in 1776.<sup>8</sup>

The parish Church (never a part of the Abbey) was strictly parochial ; there are but few traces of the earlier building which stood here before the great rebuilding in the 15th century. It seems, however, that a small chancel, of apparently 14th century date, was removed in 1770, to make way for the present incongruous one. It is probable that the western tower was the first great work of rebuilding commenced, for on its eastern face is the stonework which fitted to the line of a steeper and more ancient roof than we now see. This tower is a very noble one, pre-eminently so, even in this county of noble towers. It is in a very pure 15th century style, and has a very rich belfry stage, with great windows, filled with perforated stonework. Over the west window are three (now empty) niches of beautiful design. The interior of the tower opens into the nave by a lofty arch, and was originally groined with "fan" vaulting in stone ; of this only the shafts and springers remain, the rest has disappeared,

(8). The Abbey Church and buildings, I am told by Mr. Mackenzie Walcott, stood *eastwards* of the present Church.

and has been replaced by a poor imitation in plaster, which will before long make way for stonework again. During the restorations a very curious and interesting crypt was discovered in the centre of the chancel, extending under the earlier end of the nave. It was in six compartments, vaulted in stone resting on pillars, octagonal in plan, and reached by a ruinous winding stairway of early date. In its side walls were blocked-up *windows*, thus proving that a chancel of smaller dimensions and a nave of less length than now had stood upon it, and were destroyed, or partially so, when, towards the end of the 15th century, in the reign of Henry VII and the episcopate of Richard Fox of Bath and Wells, the great work of reconstruction of the nave and aisles was commenced. Unfortunately we do not know for certain by whom these works were undertaken. The Godolphins, however, bore a great part, as their crest is found on the carved panel under the cornice of the nave roof (on the south side in the easternmost bay), and it occurs again on a shield in the parapet of the north aisle, with a mitre and another device, and on another shield are the letters W.G. There is also carved the rebus of the name Bruton. It is probable that the nave roof was first completed, and then the aisle roofs, as these last are rather later in the character of their mouldings. The nave roof is divided into five bays, with carved tie-beams and tracery over. There are also intermediate arched timbers, with deep pendants most richly carved. The whole surface under the rafters is panelled, with bosses of carving at the intersections of the mouldings, and angels of various sizes with outspread wings are placed at intervals under the timbers and on the tie-beams. The eastern beam and a small portion of the mouldings adjoining are decorated with gold and colour, as frequently was the case where there was a rich rood-loft. The arches on each side are five in number, with large clerestory windows over, in which some fragments of the rich stained glass which once filled them are still preserved. Between the windows are niches with pinnacles and canopies, supported on shafts and carved angels.

The aisle roofs are quite as rich as those of the nave, and the eastern ends have even more delicate carving and panel work. At the east end of the north aisle was a chapel, and on the roof over it are carved and painted the instruments of our blessed Lord's Passion. In the north wall of this chapel was found a curious recess, the shape of which tends to the belief that in it was formerly a large picture of the Crucifixion; the carving above, too, would make it likely that this would be the subject. Westwards of this chapel was another dedicated to S. Catherine. The roof is picked out in vermillion and green, and there is an ancient inscription on the cornice, thus—"SANCTA CATHERINA VIRGINIS ORA. P. NOBIS." At the east end of the south aisle was also a chapel, the piscina of which still remains, with a richly-carved roof; and adjoining it, suspended to the roof, is the wooden-carved canopy of a tomb (most likely that of the founder), which stood under it, and has now disappeared. This chapel seems to have been appropriated by Sir Maurice Berkeley, at the Dissolution of the Abbey, for his initials M. B. are painted on the shields and bosses of the roof. The Berkeley family used the ancient chancel crypt as their burial vault, and many coffins are now in it. (The curious rise from west to east is caused by the passage having to pass over the arch of the vault into the chancel.) Each aisle or chapel had its own entrance doorway. That on the north has a porch, over which are built two rooms, reached by a turret stairway, probably for the use of the chantry priest. The effect of this lofty porch, or rather tower, is very fine. Over the external door is a square stone, on which can be traced the outline of the Crucifixion and the figures of S. Mary and S. John.

There was formerly a grand and lofty rood-loft across the chancel arch (this fine arch was discovered under a wretched modern one, built at the time of the erection of the chancel!) The turret stairs and doorway to it still exist. This rood-loft and screen seem to have returned round and surrounded the aisle chapels, and to have been also reached by stair turrets in each

outer wall, portions of which yet remain. Small pieces, in the shape of traceried panels, of these screens are worked up in the later rennaissance screen now in the west tower.

Early in the 17th century the Church was re-seated and the roofs repaired, and the before-mentioned screen, bearing date 1620, was erected. The roofs were again repaired in 1771.

In 1866 the state of the walls and roofs became very bad, and the opinions of Mr. W. Slater and Mr. R. H. Carpenter, architects, of London, were taken, and acting under their advice the restorations have been carried out. Mr. Slater died in 1872; and latterly the works have been continued under Mr. R. H. Carpenter and his partner, Mr. B. Ingelow, by Messrs. Clarke and Son, builders, of Bruton.

The work has been one of much difficulty, and has required the greatest care. The whole of the north wall and arcade of the nave had to be rebuilt, being thrust by the roof considerably to the northwards and much dislocated. The roofs have been most carefully repaired, only inserting new timber where absolutely necessary; in the case of the great tie-beams, for instance, new ends had to be put on, the old ends having become utterly rotten through the defective gutters. The rest of the work is renewed in a similar "conservative" manner, the result being that few would know that the old roofs had been taken off or been much interfered with. The lost and defective carving and angels wings have been replaced, on the patterns of the ancient work, by Messrs Pepper and Son, of Brighton, under the architects' directions.

The stonework generally has been cleaned and repaired, and new pinnacles put up where they formerly existed on the parapets of the nave and south aisle, and on the north tower. The 12 empty niches have been filled with figures, in stone, of the Apostles, each with his emblem, these are by Mr. Owen Thomas, of London.

The whole of the nave and aisles have been repaved and re-seated, working in the fine old oak bench ends of the 17th



century; and the western gallery, which blocked up the tower, has been removed, and the organ placed in a new chamber built for it on the south side of the chancel.

There yet remains to be effected, the alteration of the present incongruous chancel into one which will harmonise with the church, and for which sketch-plans have been prepared by the architects.

A beginning has been made towards the much to be desired filling of the windows with stained glass, for glass by Messrs. Clayton and Bell has been placed in the west window of the tower. The object of this window (which is inserted by the Bennett family) is recorded on a brass. The figures represented include our Lord in Majesty, with angels under Him, and below are the Blessed Virgin and S. Joseph, S. Anne, S. Thomas, together with the proto-Christian martyr S. Stephen, and the proto-British martyr S. Alban. Below these are figures of persons connected with the history of Bruton—King Ina and Bishop Aldhelm, and Henry VII and Bishop Fox, together with the Patron Saints of England, S. George and King Edward the Confessor.

The total cost of the works up to the present time may be stated at about £4,500.

After Mr. Carpenter's address a visit was paid to the Abbot's House, which stands in the centre of the town, and bears the arms of the Abbey. From this the party next went to the Hospital, founded in the early part of the seventeenth century by Hugh Sexey. The building is picturesque, and a good specimen of late Gothic work at a time when the rage for classicalism was fast displacing the older styles of building.

---

## The Evening Meeting

was held in the King's School, the President taking the chair soon after 8 p.m.: it was well attended.

Mr. JOHN BATTEN laid on the table a copy of a Cartulary of Bruton Abbey, belonging to the Earl of Ilchester. It was taken as read, and the thanks of the Society were voted to Mr. Batten for the trouble which he had taken in making this document public. A wish was expressed that the Cartulary should be published by the Society; but it is too long to find a place in our *Proceedings*.

BISHOP CLIFFORD read a paper on the "Roman road between Exeter and Caerleon," which will be found in Part II.

Rev. E. L. BANWELL considered that the Bishop was robbing the Welsh of one of their roads and importing it into England.

Rev. JAS. BENNETT read an interesting paper on the "Barrows at Cadbury," by Professor Rolleston, and a "Notice of some Explorations made in the neighbourhood," by Col. Lane Fox. By the kindness of the Anthropological Society, for which these papers were originally written, we have been allowed to print them in our *Proceedings*, and they will be found in Part II.

Mr. E. GREEN next read a short account of the "King's March through Somerset, July 1644," which will also be found in Part II.

This brought the work of the Evening Meeting to a close.

---

## Wednesday : Excursion.

A large party assembled at the bridge, and set off in good time. The first halt was made at Creech hill, from the top of which a beautiful and wide view was obtained of the surrounding country.

Dr. H. F. PARSONS, F.G.S., of Goole, gave the following description of the geology of the district around Bruton, in relation to its physical configuration.

The general dip of the British strata, especially of those of secondary age, is to the south-east, hence, in proceeding from the coast of East Anglia northwards or westwards, we come upon

successively older and older strata. Hence also the outcrops of the secondary strata form belts stretching across England in a south-west and north-east direction, from Dorset and Devon to Yorkshire. The outcrops of the harder strata stand out as ranges of hills, while those of the softer clays and shales have been eroded into valleys. In this neighbourhood the secondary strata exemplify the before-mentioned general arrangement, though modified in the neighbourhood of the palæozoic ridge of the Mendips. The Mendip hills form an anticlinal ridge running in a double curve from west to east, where it is lost among the escarpments of the lower oolites; the centre of the ridge is composed of old red sandstone and basalt, flanked by parallel belts of mountain limestone, the millstone grit and coal-measures appearing on the north of the ridge. The dip of the strata on the north of the anticlinal is very steep,  $60^{\circ}$  and upwards; but less so on the south. The palæozoic rocks of the Mendips have suffered an enormous amount of denudation; strata many thousand feet in thickness having been removed in the interval between the carboniferous and triassic periods; and the surface of the old rocks has been planed down almost level. Upon this flat surface rest the secondary formations; their horizontal beds lying unconformably across the obliquely cut edges of the upheaved beds of the palæozoic strata. The secondary strata, when thus resting on the palæozoic rocks, often take the form of a conglomerate containing pebbles of the older rock. The Mendip area has suffered repeated elevations and depressions during the secondary period, as shown by the breaks in the series of the secondary strata opposite the axis of the ridge, indicating either that dry land existed here at the time when the missing formations were being deposited in the neighbouring seas, or else that the formations in question having been deposited have subsequently been completely removed by denudation. One such break occurs in the lower part of the secondary series, thus near Whatley the trias, lias, and inferior oolite are wanting, and the fuller's earth rests on the old red

sandstone. Another hiatus occurs near Frome, between the Oxford clay and the upper green sand, the upper formations of the oolitic and the lower ones of the cretaceous series being absent. As we proceed northward or southward from these points we find the intermediate strata one by one making their appearance in their respective places.

From any of the commanding points in the neighbourhood of Bruton it is easy to trace the lie of the secondary rocks ; the features of the scenery being due to their arrangement and physical characters.

The lias occupies the fertile vales in the flat country below Bruton, as at Evercreech and Ditchat. The most prominent member of the series is the hard blue flaggy limestone, of which *Ammonites Bucklandi* is the characteristic fossil, and which is much used for paving, tombstones, and building.

The bed of yellow sand, called by geologists the "Midford sand," and classed sometimes with the inferior oolite, sometimes with the upper lias, gives its character to the picturesque country between Batcombe, Bruton, and Castle Cary, marked by rounded knolls and narrow valleys, luxuriant with vegetation. Above this is the inferior oolite or bastard freestone, exposed in the quarries on Creech hill. Here fossils are scarce, *Rhynchonella spinosa* and *Trichites nodosus* being the chief ; but near Bruton fossils occur in great abundance and variety. At Doulting the inferior oolite yields a fine white freestone, much used in church work ; and at Castle Cary an orange yellow sandy stone, like that at Ham hill. The inferior oolite and Midford sand form a line of hills reaching from Doulting (where it abuts on the Mendips by Small Down, Creech hill, Castle Cary, and Cadbury Camp) nearly to Sherborne.

The next bed above the inferior oolite is a soft marl, the Fuller's Earth, which may be traced in the landscape as a terrace or depression between the escarpments of the forest marble and inferior oolite ; it contains, however, a bed of rubbly limestone, resembling the cornbrash, and abounding in fossils ; this is well



seen in the railway cutting at Bruton station, and in a cutting on the Somerset and Dorset Railway at Shepton Montague.

The great oolite, which forms the steep brow of the hills about Bath, is absent in this neighbourhood, not extending south of Farleigh Hungerford, near Bradford-on-Avon, but its place in the scenery is taken, on a smaller scale, by the harder shelly limestone beds of the forest marble, which form an escarpment parallel with, and to the east of, that of the inferior oolite, reaching from Wanstrow, by Sleight Down and Redlynch, towards Wincanton. In a quarry at Witham Friary, where it is worked for lime burning, the forest marble is almost wholly composed of loose fragments of shells. But, like other shore formations, it varies greatly in character, in other places being marly or sandy. The uppermost member of the lower oolites is the cornbrash, a thin bed of rubbly limestone, abounding in fossils. It is well suited for the growth of cereals, and may from many points be traced by a yellow belt of corn fields, in pleasing contrast to the deep green of an August landscape.

The middle oolites are represented by the Oxford clay, a thick bed of blue or yellow clay, containing abundance of *Gryphæa dilatata*. This soft bed of clay has been eroded by denudation into the broad valley in which Marston, Witham Friary, and Brewham are situated. Northwards, as aforesaid, the upper green sand rests directly upon the Oxford clay; but at Longleat the coral rag and Kimmeridge clay appear in a notch cut back into the green sand hills; and the Kimmeridge clay appears again at Maiden Bradley, and forms a narrow belt, skirting the hills to Stourton.

The upper green sand forms a third range of richly wooded hills, reaching from Westbury, by Longleat and Gare Hill, to Penselwood, where it is cut off by the fault which brings up the upper oolites of the Vale of Wardour. It contains in this neighbourhood a bed of hard cherty sandstone, the outcrop of which forms the abrupt brow or edge to the line of hills on the culminating point of which Alfred's Tower is built.

The chalk, the newest foundation found in this neighbourhood, forms a fourth range of hills—bare rounded downs, the western fringe of Salisbury Plain,—of which Westbury Down, Warminster Down, Cley Hill, Bidcombe Hill, White Sheet and Bradley Knoll are the most conspicuous; the latter is the highest point of the chalk in the West of England—948 feet.

An immense amount of denudation must have gone on in this district since the close of the secondary period. There is a small outlier of upper green sand on Postlebury Hill, near Wanstrow, separated from the main body of that formation by a valley some three miles wide and three hundred feet deep, which must necessarily have been eroded since the cretaceous period.

Dr. Parsons was able to illustrate his address by pointing out the various features of the landscape, and was heard with great interest.

A considerable time elapsed before the stragglers could be collected and a start made. The next halting-place was

### *Milton Clevedon.*

Mr. EDMUND B. FERREY addressed the company in the churchyard, founding his observations on a paper prepared by the Rev. Preb. Selwyn. Mr. Ferrey said that, although the Church (dedicated to St. James) was now cruciform, the north transept had only been built during the last few years, the window disturbed by the addition being re-fixed in the north gable of the transept. The original Church was supposed to have been built in A.D. 1380, and to have belonged to the Abbey at Bruton; but the beautiful window in the east wall of the south transept was of rather earlier date. The existing tower was erected in 1790, there being a tablet in the wall to that effect. A curious old bell, which was cracked, was re-cast in 1871 with all the old marks and lettering. In the opinion of the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe its date was about 1400, the initials, cross, and lettering of the maker being well known. In the year 1865 the chancel was rebuilt on the old foundations, but raised to a greater height than the

former chancel. In the tracery of the north window of the north transept is some painted glass, coeval with the tracery, representing the five wounds of our Lord.

On the north side of the chancel is a recess containing the recumbent effigy of an ecclesiastic holding a chalice. This had been removed from the north wall of the Church. Considerable discussion ensued as to its date, as the drapery was certainly not later than the early part of the fourteenth century, while the features were sharply cut and looked fresh. At a later hour in the day Prebendary Selwyn, the Rector, explained in a clever set of verses that he himself had cut the face and fixed it on to the defaced effigy, and that he had also recut the figures of the Virgin and Child, and of the patron Saint over the porch. So much of the Church has been subjected to the "restoring" hand of the present energetic and clever incumbent that it has lost the traces by which its history can be read, and is valueless for architectural purposes. It is almost needless to say that, in spite of the ability which Mr. Selwyn has displayed, he has committed a breach of taste, and has inflicted an injury on the cause of architectural study and criticism.

The route was then continued to

### *Batcombe Church.*

MR. EDMUND B. FERREY said that this was one of the best type of the earlier and more severe Perpendicular towers, so characteristic of Somersetshire; its scale was large. Referring to the composition of the tower, he remarked that the termination of the parapet was rather peculiar and abrupt, and gave the impression of being unfinished. He had examined the top of the parapet coping, and found that there was no sign of any work having existed above it. His impression was that pinnacles had been intended (as in the case of most of the towers in the neighbourhood), but that they were never carried out.

As an illustration, Mr. Ferrey said the west towers of Wells Cathedral had the same truncated appearance at the top, and it

was clear that they too were incomplete in execution. The belfry stage differed rather from the more usual type of the village Somersetshire tower, as there were three windows instead of two. It was instructive to observe the very different way in which the angle buttresses were treated here as compared with the similar features of the neighbouring Church of Evercreech. The most interesting part of the west front of the tower was in the lower portion. In a canopied niche was a figure very commonly supposed to be a representation of Henry VII, who was reputed to have built the Church. This notion probably arose from the reign of Henry VII being a great Church building era in Somersetshire. The Patron Saint of the Church is very usually represented in such a position, but in this instance it could not be so, as the structure was dedicated to the Blessed Virgin. On each side of the niche are representations of angels, six in all. Those at the top are censuring with their thuribles. Underneath are two carrying the emblems of the Crucifixion, while the two angels at the base hold inscribed scrolls.

Mr. Sedding had informed Mr. Ferrey that he considered the figure really represented our Blessed Lord wearing a crown of thorns and the purple robe, with one foot resting on an orb. Mr. Ferrey proceeded to say that the spandrils of the door underneath are boldly carved with animals, and the large label terminations are of that elaborate and particular type characteristic of the Perpendicular period. The south porch, bearing on it the date 1629, was interesting as shewing how long Gothic detail lingered at a period when the classic revival was in full force; so there was here a curious mixture of the two styles.

Mr. Ferrey said that in plan the Church consisted of west tower, nave, and aisles of four bays, and chancel, with south porch. The vestry was modern.

It would be found that in the body of the Church there were the same characteristics as at Evercreech, the nave, arcade, and



clerestory being very similar (not at all of an uncommon type). No doubt too the roofs at Batcombe Church, tampered with in modern times, had been originally of the same rich description as those at Evercreech. The tower arch was panelled with tracery, as is so usual in the county. The windows in the south aisle were probably later insertions as they are not of the same type as the rest of the Church. There was a curious monument of Jacobean character to a member of the Bisse family in the south aisle, which it was to be hoped would never in any future restoration be removed owing to its being thought out of harmony with the style of the Church. The same remark would also apply to the Jacobean altar railing. The font Mr. Ferrey ascertained to have been cleaned or restored in 1844. It was of very good design, and his impression was that, although not the original font, it was a good copy of it. There was a stair turret which, no doubt, originally led up to the rood loft, in a rather unusual position, not being attached to the north or south sides of the aisle but to the *east* end of the north aisle. At the apex of the east gable of the nave was an ancient crucifix. The east gable of the chancel contained a most elegant example of a delicate floriated medieval cross of the early Decorated period. Altogether Batcombe Church was an extremely interesting structure.

Rev. F. BROWN gave the following details respecting the Biss family, which formerly lived in this parish, and of which a monument is preserved in the Church.

The Biss family is of an ancient origin, wills of its members extend back to 1518. They were originally of Stoke St. Michael, Somerset. Some of the family settled at Pensford, some at Croscombe, near Wells; but the more prominent of the family were of Batcombe. Philip Biss, D.D., was of Spargrove, in the parish of Batcombe, of which he was rector. He was also a Sub-Dean of Wells and Archdeacon of Taunton. He died Oct. 28, 1613. When Wadham College, Oxford, was founded by Lady Dorothy Wadham, he made the liberal benefaction of

2,000 volumes of books to the library, over the door of which she caused his portrait to be hung, with a Latin inscription. A Colonel Biss of this family was an ardent Royalist in the Civil Wars. Some of the family were living at Batcombe as late as 1744. The name is still extant in some parts of the county.

Mr. DAVIS expressed a hope that the altar rail would not be removed. He considered that it marked the time when communion tables were moved eastwards, as he thought that the present railing was as early as 1626.

Rev. W. G. BAKER, the rector, said that he thought that there was evidence to prove that the present unsightly rail was of no earlier date than the latter part of the last century.

Mr. BROWN said that Mr. Dugdale, Sir Ralph Hopton's chaplain, who suffered much for his fidelity to the king, was rector of the neighbouring parish of Evercreech.

Mr. GREEN remarked that he had mentioned him in his paper, read the evening before, as being present at the attack on Witham House, but had avoided all matter not closely connected with his subject. There was here another rector, who took the opposite side, viz., Richard Bernard, "Ministér and Preacher of God's Word, at Batcombe, in Somersetshire." He published, besides other things, a work on witchcraft, and *The Isle of Man, or Legal Proceedings in Manshire against Sin*, a work much read at the time, yet there is no copy of the first edition in existence. It is supposed that Bunyan took from it his plan for the *Pilgrims Progress*. Mr. Bernard died in 1641, and was succeeded by Richard Alleine, who was ejected for nonconformity. Perhaps here may be detected the influence for the Parliament which at the beginning of the Civil War prompted the attack on Bruton, as recorded in the registers there, under date 1642 :—

All praise and thanks to God still give,  
For our deliverance, Matthias' Eve;  
By His great power we put to flight  
Our foes, the raging Batcombites.

The whole party was then entertained by Rev. W. G. Baker at luncheon in a tent on the rectory lawn. After luncheon Mr. SELWYN recited his verses containing a confession of the various alterations and restorations which he had made in his Church.

The next halt was made at

### *Small Down Camp.*

Mr. HUNT said that the earthworks situated on this hill were the remains of a Romano-British camp, formed for the protection of the Iter ad Axium, a road which was familiar to many of the party, and especially to those who attended the Axbridge meeting and visited the remarkable remains at Charterhouse on Mendip. It was chiefly used for the carriage of minerals. He thought it most probable that it was the site of an early encampment, afterwards used during the Roman occupation.

Rev. Preb. SCARTH said that he believed the camp was not formed by the Romans, but, as had been remarked, was afterwards occupied by them. He believed that great quantities of Roman remains might be found all along the line of the Iter ad Axium from Brean Down to Old Sarum.

Rev. E. L. BARNWELL said that he should like to hear an opinion as to the original makers of these earthworks: were they not an earlier people than the British.

Rev. H. M. SCARTH was unwilling to hazard an opinion on the question.

Rev. E. L. BARNWELL remarked that the question was exciting considerable interest in France, and he hoped that in England also earnest attention would be given to everything which might throw light on the earliest inhabitants of our island.

A very hilly drive brought the party to

### *Evercreech Church.*

Mr. EDMUND FERREY first commented upon the noble tower, and drew attention to the very ingenious and elegant manner in

which the angle buttresses were gradually subdivided and terminated at length in pinnacles. Those present would now notice the different way in which the buttresses were designed as compared with Batcombe. The octagonal-shaped pinnacles crowning the tower were beautiful compositions. Proceeding to the interior, Mr. Ferrey said that, although the panel-traceried tower arch was just what we were accustomed to in Somersetshire, yet here there was a singularity in the treatment, as the three panels were arrayed in a splayed recess and more boldly and vigorously treated than usual. The nave, it would be seen, was of four bays and like Batcombe, except that the roof was a tie-beam traceried one, with ancient colouring, which had been restored. This was quite of the Somersetshire and Dorsetshire type. The font, reredos, and sedilia were modern. The flowing decorated east window was however of the latter part of the 14th century. The square-headed, but traceried side windows to the chancel, appeared rather later insertions. Mr. Ferrey said that this latter kind of window was not very common in the county. Before leaving Evercreech he said that, according to Mr. Pooley, the octagonal shaft of an ancient cross, which now stands in the open space of the road west of the Church, was formerly in the churchyard. The finial was modern, but the steps were original : the date was 15th century.

Some discussion arose as to the possibility of carrying out the programme, but the Secretary decided that

### **Ditchheat Church**

should not be left out, as he believed that in many respects it was the most important item in the day's proceedings.

Mr. E. B. FERREY said that this Church differed somewhat from the more usual Somersetshire type of Perpendicular Churches—viz., nave and aisles, with western tower and chancel—as it was cruciform, and of earlier date. The nave possessed a beautiful tie-beam roof, with some of the original colouring on it. There were also some remains of ancient



painted glass in the windows. The transepts had roofs of very similar design to the nave. The base of the central tower, with its four arches, appeared to be of Early Decorated or Early English date. It would be noticed that the piers were out of the perpendicular. The upper part of the tower was of later date. There was a kind of fan-tracery vaulting to the tower.

He drew attention to the ingenious manner in which access was obtained to the central tower, a way being contrived in the roof of the transept. The pulpit and reading desk were good specimens of Jacobean work. The chancel was remarkable, owing to the double range of windows to its sides. The lower were beautiful examples of about the date 1350, the elegant cusped rear arches being of rich design.

The beautiful east window was remarkably well preserved—so much so, that a doubt had been thrown on its ancient character. Mr. Ferrey said, however, that an examination of it on the exterior would prove it to be undoubtedly mediæval, and of the same date as the lower range of the rich chancel windows. The initials and monogram of Abbot John Selwood appeared on the parapet of the chancel.

Bishop CLIFFORD considered that the Church displayed traces of three distinct periods. The little Norman window was part of the old Church—a building with a small chancel and a small nave. Then, in the 13th century, a larger chancel was built, and in the 14th century the chancel and the nave were raised, extra windows were added to the chancel, and the nave was lengthened.

The Manor House standing near the Church is a handsome building of different dates in the 17th century, and contains a fine piece of tapestry, representing the Miraculous Draught of fishes.

### Castle Cary,

which is about two miles distant, was next reached.

The Church is a graceful Perpendicular building, which has been enlarged, and, indeed, to some extent rebuilt, during the

incumbency of the Rev. Canon Meade, the President, by Mr. Ferrey. Inside are a fine font of the early part of the 15th century, and a richly carved pulpit.

The party were entertained by the PRESIDENT on the lawn of the Rectory, and when his kind and much-needed hospitality had been received, he read the following short notes on the history of his parish :

### *History of Castle Cary.*

This town was anciently called Carith or Kari. The Great Western Railway Company obstinately insist on spelling the word Carey. If they go to the lawyers, the post-office, or the bank, they will find the word Cary. I have drawn their attention to the mistake, and the directors have promised to make the alteration, but have never done so. The eminence above the town is called "Lodge Hill," probably from having been the site of some ranger's dwelling or hunting-box belonging to the Lords of Castle Cary. The name of the town indicates that there was within its precincts a Castle. At present only two large mounds in the paddock above the pond on the east side (defended on the south by a deep ditch, and on the north-west by a wall built against the hill side,) are all that remain of the fortress where for nearly 300 years the lion banner of the Perceval Lovells waved, and which resisted the assault of even royal armies, when the Lords of Cary upheld the cause of legitimate monarchy against the usurpation of Stephen. There are remains of what is probably a more ancient fort on the hill above the site of the Castle. These earthworks consist of a rampart 24 feet high, conforming to the line of the hill. On the top of this is a platform about 40 feet in extent, diminishing to 12 feet, where the ramparts terminate. A second smaller agger is also to be seen within the outer ramparts. The trace of an old road leading into the upper fortress is clearly visible between the ramparts. The Castle belonged previous to the Conquest to the Abbot of Glastonbury. It was taken from the monastery by the Conqueror, and given to Walter de Douai. Soon after-

wards we find it in possession of Robert Perceval (a Norman follower of the Conqueror) and his family till 1351, when it passed by a female into the family of St. Maur, and again by a female to Lord Zouche of Harringworth. Lord Zouche having taken part with Richard III, his estates and manors were confiscated, and Castle Cary was given to Lord Willoughby de Broke. These lands were afterwards purchased by the first Duke of Somerset, and they passed by a female heir to Lord Bruce, eldest son of the Earl of Aylesbury. In 1684, the estate of Castle Cary was sold to two purchasers, and remained so divided till Mr. H. Hoare, in 1782, purchased one portion, and the trustees of his grandson (Sir Richard Colt Hoare) another. The estate having been entailed on the heir male, it has now descended to Sir H. A. Hoare, the present Lord of the Manor. There is a circumstance connected with this estate which shows the capricious origin of surnames in those distant times. Ascelin, surnamed De Perceval, being a warrior, obtained the name of Lupus. His second son, William de Perceval, inherited by the death of his elder brother the estates both in Normandy and England. He was called Lupellus, or young Wolf. Some of the children and descendants in this country dropping the name of Perceval assumed that of Lupellus, anglicised Lovell, and transmitted this as the name of two great families of Great Britain—the Lovells of Castle Cary, and the Lovells of Titchmarsh, and Minster Lovell, Oxon. In the reign of King Stephen the barons were allowed to construct castles. William de Perceval (who lived in this reign) is supposed to have built the Castle of Cary. We are informed by Henry of Huntingdon that “William, Baron Lovell, of Castle Cary, fortified the Castle against Stephen, who, however, stormed it, and reduced it to submission.” It was afterwards recovered to the Perceval Lovells, in 1153, by the Earl of Gloucester forcing Henry de Tracey to retire, who occupied Castle Cary for Stephen. There is no mention of the Castle after the 12th century. It had probably fallen into decay before passing into

the hands of Lord St. Maur in 1321. Richard de Perceval, fifth son of William de Perceval, the young Wolf, retained the name of Perceval, taking a different coat-of-arms from that of the Baron Lovells of Cary, and became the ancestor of the present Earl of Egmont, in the British peerage. Another Richard Lovell, Lord of Kari, founded in 1263 the Priory of Stavordale. Another Richard Lovell Perceval is known for having decyphered a secret letter taken from a Spanish ship, giving intelligence of the approach of the Armada, and so enabling the Government of this country to prepare means of defence. King Charles II slept at Castle Cary in his flight after the battle of Worcester, on the 16th of September, 1651. It is said that the King when at Colonel Norton's was very nearly being arrested in his flight, and recognised by Colonel Butler, notwithstanding his acting so well the part in speech and manners of Mr. Lane's postillion—for the poet says

“Horses and Kings in exile forc'd to roam,  
Leave swelling praise and courtly ways at home.”

So His Majesty arrived safely at Castle Cary, and was received for the night at the house of Mr. Edward Kinton, the lessee of the manor under the Marquis of Hertford, then the proprietor.

From Castle Cary the party returned to Bruton.

## The Evening Meeting

was well attended, but was not opened until rather a late hour, as the excursion had taken somewhat longer than was calculated.

Mr. HUNT said that he had received a paper from Mr. Shelmerdine, on “The Exploration of Muchelney Abbey.” It was valuable and interesting; but, as the time was short, and the writer was not able to be present, he proposed that it should be taken as read, so that it might appear in the volume of *Proceedings*. This proposition was carried, and the paper will be found in Part II.



Rev. Prebendary SCARTH said that he had prepared a paper on "Roman Somerset." As the hour was late he gave a brief verbal sketch of its contents. The paper itself will be found in Part II. He was anxious that a clear and concise account of all the Roman remains in the county should be compiled ; and, above all, that a map of Roman Somerset should be prepared, which should have the sites of all such discoveries marked down. If such a map were once made, fresh discoveries could be marked as they were brought to light. He believed that such a map as he wanted would not cost much : it would illustrate the paper which he had prepared, and of which he had now given a sketch. It need not add much to the cost of the volume. He had offered to compile such a map some two years ago, but had not met with encouragement.

Mr. HUNT said that he certainly had not received Mr. Scarth's plan, as it was brought before him some two or three years ago, with any great encouragement, as it then appeared to him to be a far more expensive undertaking than what was now proposed, and he had to consider the funds of the Society, and the various ways in which it had to spend the very small amount of money of which it had the disposal. He liked Mr. Scarth's plan of a map in its present shape very much, and begged to propose that he should be requested to publish such a map as Mr. Scarth described, as an illustration of the paper of which they had just heard such an interesting summary.

Bishop CLIFFORD seconded the proposal. He thought that it would be an excellent thing if every one who discovered any Roman remains would send word to the Curator of the Museum, that so he might gradually compile a complete list.

The proposition was carried.

Mr. SPARKS thought that a duplicate map should be kept at Taunton Castle, on which all new discoveries should be marked.

Mr. HUNT said that a large map was kept there for that purpose, and that Mr. Bidgood marked upon it all the more important discoveries of Roman remains.

Rev. F. BROWN next read a paper, which excited considerable interest and some amusement, on the wills of some of the principal families of Bruton and its neighbourhood. It will be found in Part II.

Mr. KERSLAKE read some extracts from a pamphlet which he had lately printed on Penpits, one of the objects of the next day's excursion. He believed that this remarkable spot, called by the late Rev. F. Warre "the crux of antiquaries," was the Cair Pensauelcoit, mentioned in some of the copies of the work which passes under the name of *Nennius*. The termination *coit* was *wood*, so that here was Penselwood. Any one who visited the spot would be inclined to admit that the remains were those of a great and populous city. The pits were unlike those found in hill fortresses; they were larger, and were not uniform.

The PRESIDENT said that he had always believed that the pits were quarries for whetstones.

Mr. KERSLAKE, on the other hand, repeated his arguments, to show that they were the site of a large city, containing many hundred separate habitations; many now existed, and many more had no doubt perished.

Rev. Prebendary SCARTH did not believe that they were quarry holes for the most part. The holes should be dug into and examined systematically.

Mr. HUNT remarked that theories which were founded on the mere coincidences of names stood on a poor foundation, especially when these names came from no better source than one of the lists which had been at some time copied into *Nennius*.

---

## Thursday: Excursion.

A large number set off on this day's excursion. The first place on the programme was

### Stavordale.

These interesting remains are those of a small Priory of Augustinian Canons. The present Conventual Church was

rebuilt in the time of Henry VI by John Stourton. In the reign of Henry VIII this house was annexed to Taunton Priory. The buildings are now used for a farm-house and barns.

Bishop CLIFFORD observed that the run of the cloisters could still be traced from the north side of the Church across the yard. The building was made into a house of some pretensions after the Dissolution, and had now sunk to be a farm-house. The shell of the Church remained complete. The nave was now a barn; the chancel a dwelling-house. The eastern arch was in good preservation. The level of the chancel was considerably higher than that of the nave, as it would be observed that the bases of the columns were some feet above the level of the barn.

Mr. HUNT thought that this was the effect of the loss of the steps leading into the chancel.

Bishop CLIFFORD said that the remains on the side walls were against this explanation.

Mr. HUNT suggested that the steps did not reach all the way from north to south, but left a procession path on either side.

Bishop CLIFFORD said that the spaces left between the columns of the eastern arch and the walls on either side were too narrow for such a purpose. He could give no explanation of the matter. The present dairy was once a side chapel, with a roof of great beauty. The Conventual buildings, the dormitory, &c., stood on the north side of the Church, and were now turned into barns.

### *Penselwood*

was reached after a steep ascent.

Bishop CLIFFORD said that the Church was originally a Norman building, consisting of a nave and chancel. The lower part of the tower was part of this old building as the Norman doorway and one window remained, the work belonged, he thought, to the twelfth century. The north aisle was of course later. The Church had been badly treated in restoration. No

doubt a Norman arch existed in the south porch, but the present one was a patched-up affair. Scraping and patching had done much harm here; and new noses were added to the faces on either side. There was a small piscina. The sculpture over the south porch was the Agnus Dei.

Mr. WILKINSON, the Rector, read a short paper on the Pits, which were to be next visited. He agreed with Mr. Kerslake that they were the remains of a "British Metropolis" once inhabited by our ancestors.

Mr. HUNT said that, at the risk of being thought captious, he must protest against the use of the word metropolis to describe a big town. In an Archæological Society they should be careful to use words in their right meanings. A metropolis was the mother city of a colony, or the city which contained the mother Church of a country. Canterbury, and not London, was the metropolis of England. He must also protest against the occupiers of Penpits, if indeed the pits were the remains of dwellings, being called our ancestors. We were English, they were perhaps Welsh. As far as we were concerned it mattered not who they were; they were of a different race, Keltic perhaps, and certainly not Teutonic. He understood Mr. Kerslake to say that he believed Penpits to be a primæval city inhabited before the coming of the Saxons into these parts, it was then an evident self-contradiction to talk of these inhabitants being our ancestors.

Bishop CLIFFORD thought that intermarriage prevailed between the conquerors and the conquered, and that they lived quietly side by side in these parts.

Mr. HUNT replied that though no doubt the women were to some extent made the spoil of the conquerors that did not make the race different. The character of our language, the circumstances of our conversion to Christianity, the ignorance of civilization and of the comforts of life, and the manners of our forefathers all point to the destruction of the Welsh, or their flight before the advance of the conquering people.



A visit was then made to

### Pen Pits.

These pits occupy a large space of ground. They vary greatly in size, and are placed close to one another, being only divided by narrow ridges. They are said to have once occupied 700 acres.

Mr. KERSLAKE read some extracts from his pamphlet on Penpits, entitled, *An Early British Metropolis*, in which he endeavours to prove that these pits are the site of *Caer Pen-sauelcoit*.

Rev. Prebendary SCARTH said that he thought that the theory that they were standing on the remains of a city occupied by the primitive inhabitants of the county was well worthy of consideration. He considered that Mr. Kerslake had made out a fair case. It was possible that these remains were coeval with Stonehenge. There had been no systematic attempt made at exploration. Querns and whetstones had been found here. It was very probable that if a thorough examination took place other signs of human habitation would be found. He hoped that Mr. Hunt would do something to forward such an exploration.

Bishop CLIFFORD was of the same opinion. He hoped that the Society would vote a sum of money for the purpose of digging out some of these pits. He thought that it was likely that interesting discoveries would be made. If they had ever been occupied by men, some considerable remains of this occupation would be discovered.

Mr. HUNT said that he could not agree with Mr. Kerslake in believing that these pits were the remains of a vast city. He was sorry to hold an opinion in such a matter which was contrary to that to which Mr. Scarth and the Bishop evidently strongly inclined. He believed that these pits were the remains of a series of quarries, dug for chert and sandstone, with which to make grindstones and other implements.

Bishop CLIFFORD said that, if such were the case, the ex-

cavations would be carried on with more regularity, and that there would be greater space between the pits.

Mr. HUNT could not agree with that opinion. The very fact that the spaces between the pits were so small was evidence that, taken as a whole, these pits were not the remains of human habitations. The roofs would meet, and where would the streets be? Some of the pits were not very large, but others were far larger than any hut-circles, which he had ever seen.

Rev. Prebendary SCARTH was of opinion that the appearance of the pits, as a whole, denoted human habitation, for he had seen the remains of villages which had been deserted, and they looked very like these pits. He hoped that excavations would be made.

Mr. HUNT said that though he was strongly of opinion that the pits, as a whole, were not the remains of human habitation, he would by no means say that none were so. Indeed his theory that they were quarries in itself implied that there were dwellings for the quarrymen and men who worked the chert and sandstone taken up out of these holes. He should be glad to see an investigation made by digging into some of the holes, taking some large and some small ones, some in one part and some in another for experiment. He did not think that the Society could afford much for such a purpose. He hoped that a subscription would be made and a Committee appointed for the work, and that before anything was touched competent scientific advice would be taken.

Bishop CLIFFORD agreed that this would be the best way to undertake the matter, and said that Mr. Wilkinson would be happy to do anything in his power to forward the scheme. He thought that the Committee should be to some extent composed of gentlemen in the neighbourhood.

Mr. KERSLAKE read several more extracts from his pamphlet.

In accordance with the wishes of the Meeting, a Committee has been formed, consisting largely of gentlemen living near Penpits, with Mr. Wilkinson as Secretary, for the purpose of

exploration, and several subscriptions have been received towards the expense. Some of the Committee wished to begin work in the autumn of 1878, but Mr. Hunt persuaded them to stop until the spot had been visited by Mr. W. Boyd Dawkins, F.R.S., and Rev. H. H. Winwood. Mr. Dawkins kindly made a survey of the pits on Jan. 1, 1879, and drew up a Report, and made some sections, and added a few useful practical hints for the guidance of the workers. The Secretary has not yet received any Report from the Exploration Committee. The Report of Mr. W. B. Dawkins is as follows :

### *Preliminary Report on the Pen Pits at Pen Selwood.*

I. Having been requested by the Rev. W. Hunt, on behalf of the Somerset Archæological and Natural History Society, to undertake the conduct of the exploration of the Pen Pits, I have the honour to lay before the Exploration Committee the following results of a preliminary survey, made on the 1st January, under the guidance of the Revs. H. H. Winwood and T. W. Wilkinson, of the ground to the east and south-east of Pen Selwood Church.

II. The geological structure of Pen Selwood, in the district examined, is noted in the accompanying vertical section.<sup>9</sup> A stiff blue clay (the Kimmeridge) forms the bottoms of the valleys, and the hills are composed of shelly sands and sandstones, containing layers of chert in their middle and upper portions. Out of this have been carved by the streams the two winding spurs or promontories, on which are situated the pits which we visited.

III. The pits are excavated in the upper and middle parts, and not in the lower, where we did not observe any hard sandstone or chert in the sections.

IV. They vary considerably in size and depth, the larger ones being on the higher grounds, while the smaller are centered mainly in the lower.

(9). This section was not intended for publication but for use on the ground by the Committee.

V. From this irregularity it may be inferred that they have not been primarily designed for habitations, for which the larger would be wholly unfitted. In this respect they differ from all the hut circles which have come under my notice, such, for example, as those of Worle hill and Pen Knowle, in Somerset.

VI. Their irregularity, however, agrees with that observable in similar depressions resulting from old mining operations, in which a shaft was sunk down to the layer sought for, and when all the material within reach of the bottom of the shaft was removed the shaft was forsaken, and another sunk by its side. This process has covered large areas in the Weald of Sussex with depressions similar to those under consideration. It is, therefore, probable that the latter have had a like origin, and that they are the partially filled up excavations made in search of certain layers of stone.

VII. At the present time the hard siliceous layers of stone in the middle and upper parts are dug for road mending. The largest pits are those in which the thickness of material to be penetrated before the bottom of the chert and sandstone is reached is the greatest, whilst those are the smallest where the superincumbent sand is the thinnest. Consequently the former are on the higher ground, and the latter on the slopes. It is said that querns and grindstones have been found in the neighbourhood, made of material found in these strata. On this point the local committee will doubtless be able to collect valuable information.

VIII. Were these depressions designed for habitation they would be smaller, and more uniform in size and shape. Nevertheless, it is by no means improbable that some of the smaller may have been used for this purpose.

IX. I should, therefore, suggest that the local committee explore one or two of the smaller, which might be done with little expense. One of middle size also should be explored down to the bottom, according to the plan in the appendix.

X. A cursory survey of the fine camp of Castle Orchard, the

outer fosse of which is close to the pits, reveals traces of ancient habitations. Those on the citadel should be carefully explored to the bottom, according to the above-mentioned plan.

XI. It must be noted that this camp may, or may not be, of the same age as some of the Pen Pits. This doubtful question will probably be decided by the digging.

XII. It must also be observed that stones from strata similar to those in which the above pits are sunk have been used by man for various purposes, from the remotest times. The Palaeolithic hunters of Wookey Hole, and the Palaeolithic dwellers round Chard and Axminster, employed chert for their rudely-chipped implements. Querns also and scythe stones have been manufactured at various periods out of the same layers of rock. Since the art of mining was practised in the Neolithic Age, it is by no means improbable that some of these pits may have been sunk for the sake of the chert, just as those of Cissbury Camp, near Worthing, and of Grimes Graves, near Thetford, were sunk in the chalk by neolithic miners to obtain flint for the manufacture of implements.

XIII. The district round Pen Selwood, we must remark, in conclusion, is full of traces of ancient occupation, and those mentioned above are a small fraction only of a large series which claims the attention of the Society.

XIV. In carrying out the exploration it will give me great pleasure to aid the committee by the loan of instruments for making plans, or by any other means within my power.

W. BOYD DAWKINS.

The Society owes Mr. Dawkins great thanks for this able Report, and for the kindness with which, in spite of his numerous important engagements, he agreed to the request of the Secretary.

On arriving at Stourton the party sat down to luncheon in the Inn.

The PRESIDENT, in proposing the health of Messrs. H. Dyne and W. Müller, spoke of the kind way in which these gentlemen



had devoted themselves to the arrangements for the Meeting, and the able manner in which they had filled the office of Local Secretaries.

A few other complimentary speeches were made, and the company then visited

### *Stourhead,*

the seat of Sir H. A. Hoare, Bart. The museum of antiquities collected by Sir R. C. Hoare and Mr. Cunnington had been removed to Devizes. The library contains many rare books. The house is full of fine pictures and costly and beautiful works of art. The most noteworthy things are, perhaps, a picture of Elijah raising the Widow's Son, Rembrandt; a Virgin and Child, by And. del Sarto; a beautiful series of drawings, by Canaletti, of scenes in Venice, and the celebrated "Sixtus V. Cabinet."

In the gardens is the High Cross of Bristol, set up in that city in the 14th century, and taken down in the 18th. It is a rich and beautiful work, and ought to be standing in its own city. Its presence at Stourton adds no beauty to the place, as it is so strangely incongruous; it is a continual reproach to Bristol. A scheme was set afoot a short time ago to restore this exquisite monument to the city, but it has lately been announced that this is abandoned on account of the great difficulty and risk in moving so many small fragments of stone and piecing them together. To any one who has seen the triumph of skill and ingenuity exhibited in the restoration of the shrine of S. Amphibalus in the Abbey at S. Albans, this excuse will seem trivial enough.

After spending some time in the house and grounds, the party returned to Bruton, and the meeting closed.

---

# The Local Museum

was the result of considerable care and labour. It contained among other objects of interest :—

A Portrait of William of Wykeham ; statues from the old Abbey buildings ; some good coins and medals ; a key from Glastonbury Abbey ; a key from Evercreech House, marked R.H. (Ralph Hopton) ; and other curiosities, shown by Rev. A. J. WOODFORDE.

A book of maps of the counties of England, by Saxton, 1575, shown by Rev. J. J. MOSS.

Miniatures of Milton, Andrew Marvel, and Henry VII, and other things, by Mr. W. W. TYNDALE.

Carved oak alms box ; by Rev. H. TODD.

An old portrait of Oliver Cromwell, by Mr. AMOR.

A fine collection of fossils from the coal, upper green sand, chalk, and coral rag formations of this neighbourhood, by the President, Rev. CANON MEADE ; with many other curious things collected from other parts.

---

## King Alfred's Palace at Wedmore.\*

---

BY REV. SYDENHAM H. H. HERVEY,  
*Vicar of Wedmore.*

---

THE celebration at Wedmore of the 1000th anniversary of the Peace at Wedmore on August 7th, 1878, the sermons, the addresses, the after-dinner speeches, which were on that day delivered upon Alfred and his connexion with Wedmore, put it into our heads to see whether we could find any vestiges of Alfred's house.

\* This communication and the one which follows it were received too late for insertion in the proper place.

That he had a house in the place, and that he there entertained Guthrum and some of the Danish chiefs, are, I believe, facts distinctly stated or implied in the Saxon chronicles.

In the hamlet of Mudgley, about one and a half mile from Wedmore Church, as thou goest towards Glastonbury, on the south slope of the hill that stretches from Theale to Badgworth and Weare, and that overlooks the turf moor, there is a field wherein tradition places the king's house. Another tradition calls it the abbot's house. The two traditions do not necessarily contradict each other. Both may be true. The name of the field is called "Court Garden." The name of the very next field to it, at the foot of the hill, is called "King's Close." Some light might no doubt be thrown on the subject by tracing the property back to its earliest owners. I know nothing of its ownership except that it now belongs to E. U. Vidal, Esq., by whose kind permission we went in with pick and with spade.

The result of our labours consists (1) of those relics which are now to be seen at the Vicarage; (2) of that which is still (May 27) to be seen *in situ*, e. g., walls, etc.

(1). The relics consist of a great quantity of coarse black or brown unglazed pottery, either Romano-British or Saxon; pottery more or less glazed; glazed roof-tiles of various patterns; slate tiles of various degrees of thickness; stone or shingle roof-tiles; iron keys; an arrow-head, spear head and spur; pair of compasses; nails and shapeless bits of iron; horse-shoe and curb-chain; bones of domestic animals; deers' horns, red and fallow; a bit of slate tile with a few bars of sacred music scratched upon it; 2 silver pennies, Edward and Richard (I think the second of each name); some Nuremburg or other medieval tokens. Any impartial person looking at these relics will, I think, come to the conclusion that the field wherein they were found must have been occupied by man from Saxon times up till the 16th or 17th century.

(2). Of that which is still to be seen *in situ* I do not feel able to give a very correct account, but will merely point out roughly

what has been brought to light. On first coming into the field from Wedmore, there is a road made of large stones carefully laid down, though rather rough. Over the road has accumulated about 4 feet of soil, not the debris of a house, but earth which seems as if it had been gradually washed down the hill. We have as yet only followed the road for about 15 yards into the field. I presume it came from Wedmore, and led up to the house. On the left of the road, as you go toward the house with your back to Wedmore, there is a long building 95 feet by 39 feet. It seems to have been all one room, and to have stood by itself, not touching anything else. It may have been a barn, or it may have been the hall. The masonry is very rude and irregular; the walls from 4 to 5 feet thick. A little lower down the field is an underground room, 20 feet by 16 feet, with two steps leading up out of it. Three of the walls are still standing from 4 feet to 7 feet high. The present surface of the ground is 4 feet above the top of that wall which is 7 feet high. One of the walls is nearly 6 feet wide. The one opposite to it, is not so wide, being built up against the rock. These two walls incline towards each other, so that the room must have been arched over. In the debris with which the room was filled up were a quantity of light spongy-looking stones; which I am told are such as were often used for vaulted roofs on account of their comparative lightness. This underground room seems to have been in the middle of a quadrangle, of which three walls and a part of the fourth are to be seen. The north wall of the quadrangle is about 165 feet long, with three little cells built on the inside of it, and other walls running from it towards the underground room. The west wall of the quadrangle is about 120 feet long, and at the lower end of it is a muddle of walls which defy description. Close to the south wall is a well about 20 feet deep, steyned round. Judging from the rubbish that came out of it, I should say it had been filled up within the last 100 years. An old man, who has known the field 70 years, tells me that there is another well somewhere. The road to Meare

and Glastonbury, which at present skirts the west side of the field, and divides it from an orchard, was only made about 60 years ago. The old road used to go round the further side of the orchard, so that the field, where the excavations are, and the orchard are really one. I am told by an old inhabitant that his father told him that, when they made the present road they came across some foundations. So that besides the barn-shaped building and the quadrangle which I have mentioned, the building must have extended across the road to where the orchard is now. Some walls, which we have found running up to the hedge are additional proof that it did so.

The masonry of the different walls will, I think, tell the same tale as the pottery told, viz., the tale of a succession of houses through many centuries. That tale is told : (1) by the different style of masonry, some of it being regular and well-built, some rude and roughly built ; (2) by some of the walls being at such angles to others that they could hardly have been standing at the same time ; (3) by some of the walls being built, not "on old England," as they call it, but on the debris. The stone is all local. Very little freestone has been found. The principal piece is a Perpendicular chimney top.

A plan of the whole thing has been kindly made for me by Mr. J. J. Spencer, architect. Photographs have been taken by Mr. Philipps, photographer, of Wells. I had hoped to be able to keep the excavations open through the summer, if not for ever ; but the necessities of agriculture demand that it shall be speedily filled up. I may add that when we went into the field nothing whatsoever was visible above ground ; nor has anything been, except heaps of stones lying about, in the memory of the oldest inhabitant. Hard by is a lane called "White horse lane." It has occurred to me whether that name may not date from Saxon times, and help to mark a Saxon settlement or palace.

---



## An Altar Tomb at Curry Malet.

BY A. MALET, ESQ.

AS the Church of St. James at Curry Malet is about to be restored, the Rev. C. Leigh Pemberton proposes to remove from its present position an altar tomb, which Collinson in his *History of Somersetshire* thus notices : "In the north aisle is a large tomb in which are deposited the remains of one of the family of Mallet, but the inscriptions are quite illegible. About 60 years since, on opening this tomb, the corpse was found entire, with one of the legs drawn up, which corresponds with the tradition that the person interred herein had a contracted leg."

The tomb is traditionally said to be that of Lord William Malet, and the rector kindly invited Messrs. Arthur and O. Warre Malet to consult with him previously to his forming any decision as to its removal ; they, therefore, met the rector and the churchwardens, Messrs. W. Thwaites and T. C. Walrond, with the builder, Mr. Blackmore, on the 23rd April, 1879.

The tomb stands in the first bay of the north aisle, against the first detached pillar ; it consists of a chest hollowed out of a solid block of Ham Hill stone, with a slab of the same sort of stone, without any visible trace of inscription or sculpture. One of the corners of the chest is partially chamfered, as if to accommodate something that formerly abutted on it. The slab or lid has one of its corners cut away apparently for a similar purpose : neither of these mutilations is necessary in the present position of the tomb. The middle of the slab at the west end is cut to fit the pillar against which it stands, so that the chest might be placed against it to gain more space about the pulpit and reading-desk to which it is rather inconveniently close.

All this seems to lead to the conclusion that the present is not the original position of the tomb.

The covering slab, which is 7 ft. 7½ in. by 3 ft. 9 in., was so far moved by Mr. Blackmore and his workmen that the inside could be partially examined. The chest is hollowed out leaving walls

of about  $3\frac{3}{4}$  in. in thickness, and in it is a coffin of oak 5 ft.  $11\frac{1}{2}$  in. long, 1 ft.  $1\frac{1}{2}$  in. wide at the head,  $10\frac{1}{2}$  in. wide at the foot,—inside measurements. The sides and ends are in good preservation, the top a good deal broken ; the bottom was not examined, the planks are roughly cut, the marks of the saw being still visible.

There is a quantity of decayed wood in the chest, some of it considerably thicker than the present coffin ; it is possible that this may be the debris of an outside casing of some more perishable wood than oak, or of the original coffin replaced at some removal by the present one.

The bones, which have been previously slightly disturbed, seem to be all in good preservation ; the under jaw, in the opinion of those present who had seen many bodies, being remarkably large and powerful, with very good teeth, precluding the idea of any advanced age.

The body had been carefully and tightly swathed in linen, a good deal of which still adheres to the bones, especially to the hands ; portions of this and of some other substances adhering to the thigh bone were removed for more minute examination, as an opinion had been expressed that the body had been embalmed. No peculiarities or marks which could lead to identification were observed, and the slab was replaced on the chest.

It was the opinion of all who were present that the tomb is not in the position it first occupied, and that it now interferes very inconveniently with the arrangements for seating the congregation ; it was therefore deemed that, if another suitable place were proposed, there could be no valid objection to its removal.

The Rector of the parish of Curry Malet, Mr. C. Leigh Pemberton, then decided to remove the tomb a few feet only from its present position, and to place it under the east window at the end of the north aisle ; sufficient space being left between it and the walls to allow all sides of it to be seen.

---

# The Library.

## ADDITIONS SINCE THE PUBLICATION OF THE LAST VOLUME :

*The Archæological Journal, and Index vol.*

*Journal of the British Archæological Association.*

*Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of London.*

*Journal of the Royal Historical and Archæological Association of Ireland.*

*Proceedings and Transactions of the Royal Irish Academy.*

*Archæologia Cantiana, vol. xii.*

*Proceedings of the Literary and Philosophical Society of Liverpool.*

*Transactions of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archæological Society.*

*Collections of the Surrey Archæological Society.*

*Report and Transactions of the Plymouth Institution and Devon and Cornwall Natural History Society, vol. vi, part 2.*

*Montgomeryshire Collections.*

*Transactions of the Watford Natural History Society.*

*Proceedings of the Bristol Naturalists' Society.*

*Wiltshire Archæological and Natural History Magazine.*

*Bulletin of the Essex Institute, Salem, Mass.*

*Transactions of the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire, 3rd series, vol. vi.*

*Proceedings and Annual Report of the Geologists' Association.*

*Journal of the Derbyshire Archæological and Natural History Society, vol. i.*

*Proceedings of the Bath Natural History and Antiquarian Field Club.*

*Associated Architectural Societies' Reports and Papers.*

*Proceedings of the Norwich Geological Society.*

*Pooley's Crosses of Somersetshire (purchased).*

*Church Rambler, vol. ii (purchased).*

*Lapidarium Walliæ, parts 1, 2, 3 ; by Rev. E. L. BARNWELL.*

*The History of a Railway, by Mr. L. H. RUEGG.*

Six volumes of *The Times* newspaper, 1853—1855, during the Crimean war ; by Mr. P. TAYLOR.

*The Charters and Letters Patent Granted to the City of Bristol ;* by the Rev. I. S. GALE.

*Collectanea Antiqua*, vol. vii, part 2 ; *Address delivered at the Special General Meeting of the Strood Institute Elocution Class ;* by Mr. C. ROACH SMITH.

Shepherdson's *New Hull Guide* ; by Rev. Preb. CLARK.

*Anahuac : or Mexico and the Mexicans, Ancient and Modern ;* by Mr. TYLOR, D.C.L.

*Anniversary Address to the Geological Society of London ; On the Pleistocene Deposits of Devon ; On the Triassic Rocks of Somerset and Devon ; On the Prospects of Coal South of the Mendips ; On the Geology of Paignton ; On the Mouth of the River Exe ;* by Mr. W. A. E. USSHER.

*Palæontographical Society's Journal*, 1879 (purchased).

*The Visitations of Essex ; The Registers of St. Peter's, Cornhill ; The Registers of St. Dionis, Backchurch ; The Registers of Canterbury Cathedral ;* Harleian Society (purchased).

*A Monograph of the British Aphides*, vol. ii ; Ray Society (purchased).

*On the Palæontology and Physical Condition of the Meux-well Deposits ;* by Mrs. CHAS. MOORE.

---

## The Museum.

### ADDITIONS SINCE THE PUBLICATION OF THE LAST VOLUME :

A Cast of the Portland Vase, executed by Wedgwood previously to making his celebrated fifty copies in china, formerly in the possession of the Right Hon. Sir David Dundas ; by Miss ADAIR.

A Coin of Gallienus, found at Hamdon Hill ; by Mr. C. TRASK.

Photographs of Sculpture found at Muchelney Abbey ; by Mr. SHELMERDINE.

A collection of Foreign Shells ; some Polished Stones ; a

pair of embroidered Lady's Shoes of the time of Queen Anne ; an Agnus Dei of Wax, from St. Peter's at Rome ; Beetles from the Tropics, &c. ; by Mr. SURTEES.

Rubbing of a Brass, from Anthony Church, Cornwall ; by Mr. F. MAY.

Femur of a Horse and Jaw of a Pig, found 24 feet under the surface at the Canal basin, Huntworth, near Bridgwater, 1826 ; by Mr. GREGORY.

An eyeless Crustacean (cray-fish), from the Mammoth Cave, Kentucky ; by Mr. W. G. MARSHALL.

A sketch of the George Inn, Norton St. Philip ; by Mr. A. MAYNARD.

Two carved Oak Panels, from East Coker, which have been deposited in the Museum for many years ; by Mr. GEORGE BULLOCK.

Collection of Green-sand and Chalk Fossils, from the neighbourhood of Castle Cary ; by the Rev. CANON MEADE.

Bones of Wolf, Fox, Bear, Hare, Ox, and Deer, found in a fissure in the mountain limestone in a quarry at Bleadon ; by the Rev. W. P. WILLIAMS.

Specimens of the Bittern, Little Egret, Pheasant, Scoter, and Great Crested Grebe ; by Mr. WELMAN.

A series of Flints from Westward Ho ! showing various stages of the manufacture of flint tools ; by Mr. TOWNSHEND M. HALL.

A print of the old Taunton Cross ; by Mr. WEBB.

A specimen of the Turnstone ; by Mr. WOODLAND.

A pied variety of the Blackbird ; by Mr. WHITE.

Two specimens of Bewick's Swan, *Cygnus minor*, shot near Glastonbury ; by Mr. J. A. PORCH.

Bristol China Coffee Cup (purchased).

Tureen and Stand of Staffordshire Cream Ware, printed in black ; by Mr. CLEMENT SMITH.

A Photograph, from an old Daguerrotype, of the ceremony of laying the foundation stone of the Tower of St. Mary Magdalene, Taunton ; by Mr. W. MAYNARD.



A Bronze Celt ; by Mr. BUCKLAND.

Framed Engraving of the Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford ; by Dr. PRING.

Nine Somersetshire Tokens ; a Portuguese Silver Coin ; and a Photograph of the Siberian Mammoth, now in the Museum at Vienna ; by Mr. H. C. WHITE.

Charles I Farthing ; by Messrs. HADDON and FRANKLIN.

Two Taunton Tokens ; by the Rev. R. J. BEADON.

A Token of John Daw of Lawrance Lydiard, 1671 ; by Mr. FREEMANTLE.

#### DEPOSITED :

Drawings of Sections of the Coast, extending from Blue Anchor to Sherton Bars ; a collection, mounted in an album, of fishes found on the Somersetshire coast, and Drawings of shells and fossils, executed by the late Mr. William Baker, of Bridgewater, Secretary of the Society for many years, by Mr. BAKER.

Koodo Horns from Elephant Bay ; fish from the Congo ; fish from Ascension Island ; bird's nest and India rubber wood from the river Congo ; two shells and fossil wood, Elephant Bay, Loanda ; head of Hippopotamus, Ponta de Linha, river Congo, 1868 ; Dahomey clay pipe ; Kabenda pipes, spoons, and fetish ; and West African Axe ; by Lieut. W. H. M. DANIELL, R.N.

A collection of 120 cases of Birds, comprising many rare and fine specimens, mostly killed in Somersetshire, by Dr. WOODFORDE.

---

## Conversazione Meetings.

---

1879.

April 17th.

*On the History of Games*, by Mr. E. B. TYLOR, D.C.L., F.R.S., &c.

April 28th.

*On University Life in the Middle Ages*, by the Rev. H. P. KNAPTON.

May 12th.

*On Burmah*, by the Rev. C. S. P. PARISH.

---

---

## Addenda to Paper on Roman Somerset.

BY REV. H. M. SCARTH.

The following are places where Roman remains have been found, which are not enumerated in the account of Roman Somerset:—

Banwell, one mile west of, on line of Bridgwater road, near Star Inn, Roman remains.

Beacon on Mendip, Roman coins.

Butleigh Wootton, Roman villa and Roman coins.

Copley, near Littleton, on the side of the road leading to Street, Roman coins and traces of buildings.

Cothelstone, Roman coins.

Cockmill, near Pylle, Roman coins.

Honeyhall, Congresbury, Roman coins.

Hurcot, Roman villa, discovered 1827.

Isle Brewers, Roman pottery.

Kingsdon, Roman remains on each side of the River Carey.<sup>1</sup>

Littleton, Roman villa, remains extend over 30 acres.<sup>2</sup>

Lytes Carey, on the road to Charlton, Roman villa.

Long Ashton, Roman coins.

Orchard Wyndham, Roman memorial stone.<sup>3</sup> Doubtful, not noticed in Hubner's *Inscrip. Brit. Lat.*

Portbury, near Bristol, Roman remains.

Somerton, Roman villa near turnpike-gate.<sup>4</sup>

Tedbury Camp, near Elm, Roman coins.

Temple Cloud, Roman coins, and a fortified enclosure, where foundations have been found.<sup>5</sup>

Wraxall, Roman coins.

List of names which indicate Roman occupation, and are found along lines of Roman road, or contiguous to Roman settlements:—Stone, Stane, Stan, Stoney, Street, Stroat, Castle, Wall, Caer, Gaer, Chester, Cester, Castor, Cold Harbour, Ceaster, Silver, Ford, Way, Waeg, Weg.

(1). See Phelps's *Hist. Som.* vol. i.

(2). See *Gent. Mag.* vol. xcvi, pt. 2, p. 113; also Phelps's *Hist. Som.* vol. i. p. 169.

(3). This is supposed to have been brought here from Cumberland, as the inscription is given in Hortley's *Brit. Rom.* as found there. See Phelps's *Som.* vol. i, p. 174.

(4). See Phelps's *Som.* vol. i.

(5). See Phelps's *Som.* vol. i, p. 174.



## Addenda to Paper on Roman Somerset.

BY REV. H. M. SCARTH.

The following are places where Roman remains have been found, which are not enumerated in the account of Roman Somerset:—

Banwell, one mile west of, on line of Bridgwater road, near Star Inn, Roman remains.

Beacon on Mendip, Roman coins.

Butleigh Wootton, Roman villa and Roman coins.

Copley, near Littleton, on the side of the road leading to Street, Roman coins and traces of buildings.

Cothelstone, Roman coins.

Cockmill, near Pylle, Roman coins.

Honeyhall, Congresbury, Roman coins.

Hurcot, Roman villa, discovered 1827.

Isle Brewers, Roman pottery.

Kingsdon, Roman remains on each side of the River Carey.<sup>1</sup>

Littleton, Roman villa, remains extend over 30 acres.<sup>2</sup>

Lytes Carey, on the road to Charlton, Roman villa.

Long Ashton, Roman coins.

Orchard Wyndham, Roman memorial stone.<sup>3</sup> Doubtful, not noticed in Hubner's *Inscrip. Brit. Lat.*

Portbury, near Bristol, Roman remains.

Somerton, Roman villa near turnpike-gate.<sup>4</sup>

Tedbury Camp, near Elm, Roman coins.

Temple Cloud, Roman coins, and a fortified enclosure, where foundations have been found.<sup>5</sup>

Wraxall, Roman coins.

List of names which indicate Roman occupation, and are found along lines of Roman road, or contiguous to Roman settlements:—Stone, Stane, Stan, Stoney, Street, Stroat, Castle, Wall, Caer, Gaer, Chester, Cester, Castor, Cold Harbour, Ceaster, Silver, Ford, Way, Waeg, Weg.

(1). See Phelps's *Hist. Som.* vol. i.

(2). See *Gent. Mag.* vol. xcvi, pt. 2, p. 113; also Phelps's *Hist. Som.* vol. i. p. 169.

(3). This is supposed to have been brought here from Cumberland, as the inscription is given in Hortley's *Brit. Rom.* as found there. See Phelps's *Som.* vol. i, p. 174.

(4). See Phelps's *Som.* vol. i.

(5). See Phelps's *Som.* vol. i, p. 174.



# MAP OF ROMAN SOMERSET.

By the Rev F. H. Searth, M.A.





*Proceedings*  
*of the*  
*Somersetshire Archæological and*  
*Natural History Society,*

1878, *Part II.*

---

P A P E R S, E T C.

---

Roman Somerset.

---

BY REV. PREBENDARY SCARTH,

*Rector of Wrington.*

---

THE present sketch of Roman Somerset is not intended for a perfect picture, much still remains to be filled in, to complete the drawing, which it is hoped may in time bring together all that can be known of the Roman occupation: but every care has been taken to record any remains which have either been found in recent times, or of which any notice exists. Scattered notices contained not only in the county histories, and in the *Proceedings* of our own Archæological Society, have been brought together, but also those which exist in Reynold's *Itinerary of Antonine*, and in Leman's MS. notes to Horsley, B.R., bequeathed to the Bath Literary and Scientific Institution. The writer has also, during a period of nearly forty years, carefully visited and noted existing remains; and although he cannot say that he has examined every spot recorded in this summary, yet he has in a great many cases personally verified the accuracy of the statements which previous antiquarians have made.

Somerset has no slight claim to notice among the counties of England for having yielded many traces of Roman occupation, and distinct marks of Roman civilization. The number of inscribed stones which have been found, especially in Bath, the many fine pavements, and the remains of villas, which abound throughout the county, make it one of great interest to the student of Roman history. It is also intersected by two Roman roads, the lines of which have been distinctly traced, and though no miliaries have yet been found by which the date of their construction or repair can be accurately ascertained, yet the remains discovered along their course sufficiently attest their importance. The principal of these is the Foss which passes out of Devonshire into Somerset, near to Chard, and continues its course to Ilchester, the ancient Ischalis, where it is met by the Roman road coming from Dorchester, and thence goes by Shepton Mallet to Bath. Not far from Shepton Mallet it is cut by the second road, which passed through the mineral district of the Mendip Hills, and along the course of which traces of ancient mining operations occur, and abundance of Roman remains have been found. This road, commencing at Uphill, and touching the Roman port on the Severn under Brean Down, at the mouth of the River Axe, passes over the Mendip Hills till it leaves the county not far from Witham Friary, and enters Wiltshire near to Maiden Bradley. Along the whole of its line it is accompanied by stations and fortified points of occupation, where Roman remains are found, and traces of mining operations.

A portion of another Roman road, known at the "Via Julia," and along which one of the Roman Itinera is carried (the xiv), passes through the north-eastern corner of the county, entering it between Bitton and North Stoke, and passing through Bath, quits it again at Bathford, where it enters Wilts. This is the only Somersetshire Roman road mentioned in the Itinera of Antonine.

There are traces of several other roads, which are all enumerated in the following summary, but these have not the same



distinct marks as those just noticed, nor do they seem to have been so much frequented. These are, the Roman road from Dorchester, which joins the Foss at Ilchester; and a road from Ilchester, in the direction of Somerton and Street, to Glastonbury; also a road along the Polden Hills, where pottery kilns have been found; and traces of one exist along the Brendon and the Quantock Hills. Remains are found along their course, and the bed of the road has in places been laid bare.

Roman Somerset has possessed not only the well known city of "*Aquæ Solis*," so famous for its mineral springs, and mentioned by Solinus, the remains of which show a high state of art, and are probably of an early date, but *Ilchester*, placed at the junction of two Roman roads, the one coming from Exeter, the other from Dorchester, has also been a place of importance, as testified by the remains still existing.

It is not improbable that Bristol, in Roman times, may have afforded an outlet to Roman Somersetshire commerce, as Roman coins and two pigs of Roman lead have been found there, and the river Avon has yielded distinct signs of Roman traffic; but the proof of Roman occupation is not yet clearly made out.

Besides the port under Brean Down, commonly known as the Port "*Ad Axium*," Bridgwater may have been also another outlet, and has been thought to be the Roman "*Uxella*," from whence the *Æstuarium Uxella* took its name. A Roman road coming from Exeter, has been traced in this direction, and this continued on under Brent Knoll, pointing towards Axbridge, where Roman coins have been found.

As lead workings have been found in Mendip, so iron workings appear to have been carried on by the Romans in the Brendon Hills. Remains have been found at Treborough and Luxborough, and coins near Dunster, near which there is a camp; and traces of a Roman road are said to exist near Elworthy.

Mineral produce seems to have been an important object in Roman occupation, and that this occupation took place very early is attested by finding pigs of lead with the Imperial stamp,



one as early as A.D. 40-48, found at Blagdon on Mendip, and bearing the stamp BRITANNICVS ; also one of Claudius, A.D. 49, found at Wookey ; and others of Vespasian (circa A.D. 70).

This part of England was reduced to Roman obedience in the time of Claudius, and the Imperial tribute of lead appears then to have been exacted.

Vespasian, in command of the 2nd Legion, is said by Suetonius, "*Tricies cum hoste confluxit, duas validissimas Gentes, superque viginti oppida, et Insulam Vectem Britannia proxima, in ditionem redegit, partim Auli Plautii Consularis legati, partim Claudii ipsius ductu.*"

The pigs of lead found on Mendip clearly authenticate the early conquest of this portion of Britain.

The Belgæ, the ancient inhabitants of Somerset, appear to have been one of the "*duas validissimas Gentes*" conquered by the Imperial Legate Aulus Plautius, under whom Vespasian served.

It is in vain we try to ascertain the site of those many battles spoken of by Suetonius. There are many strong British camps in Somerset, as Hamdon Hill, Castle Neroche, Cadbury near Wincanton, the Worle Camp near Weston-super-Mare, Dolebury and Maesbury on Mendip, which though occupied by the Romans, as we judge from remains found there, yet appear to be of British construction. It is not improbable that, not far from these points, decisive battles with the Roman forces took place, and Roman camps can often be traced not far distant.

From the date of the Emperor Claudius's visit to Britain, we hear of no further fighting in this portion of the island. The Roman arms were henceforth directed against the Silures, inhabitants of South Wales, the Trinobantes of Essex, the Brigantes of Yorkshire and Lancashire, and the north of England, until the great northern barrier was completed in the time of Hadrian.

It is probable therefore that Somerset, together with the western and southern counties, enjoyed a period of comparative

peace and prosperity during the 400 years of Roman occupation. The traces of Roman villas that remain in every part of Somerset seem to indicate this. They present the appearance of country houses unprotected by any defence, and generally in close proximity to a Roman road, while the Roman garrison-camp is at some distance.

The pavements which these villas contain are rich and beautiful. Many still remain. They have been found in Bath, at Newton St. Loe, at Wellow, at Bathford, at Pitney, at Whatley near Frome, and in every part of the county.

This seems to indicate repose and comfort, and peaceable possession. They are not found in the northern part of Britain beyond Yorkshire, where the country was but imperfectly subjugated, and needed strong garrisons.

Potters-kilns, or their refuse, have been found at Shepton Mallet, at Huntspill, Norton Fitzwarren, the Burtles, Chilton Polden and at Bathampton. The ware found in these places is of the coarser kind, but specimens of Samian, as well as the Durobrivian ware, are found in plenty on the sites of villas. Many gems, with devices of different kinds, as Cupids, heads of Divinities, &c., cut in red cornelian, have been found, especially at Charterhouse on Mendip. Coins in abundance are found everywhere. Some consular coins of the date of Mark Antony have been found at Charterhouse, and the coins discovered here and elsewhere reach to the latest period of Roman occupation.

The geographical position of Somerset, as identified with the ancient names in Ptolemy the geographer, is bounded on the north by the Sabrina Æstuarium and the Uxella Æstuarium, and bordered on the north-east by the country of the Dobuni, and on the west and south by the Damnonii and Durotriges; and contains the towns of "Ischalis," which is Ilchester, and Aquæ Solis, or "ὕδατα θερμά," which is Bath. These are the only places noted by the geographer. The Belgæ inhabited this region, and their boundary has been supposed to be the Wansdyke, which earthwork stretches from Maesknoll, and pro-

bably from the river Avon (where the three camps, two on the Somerset and one on the Gloucestershire side, guard the navigation) to the woodlands of Berkshire.

The ancient writers who have noticed the Roman occupation in Somerset are the Roman geographer Ptolemy, the chorographer Ravennas (if Aquis mentioned by him be not *Buxton*), and the Itinerary of Antonine. (Iter xiv.)

The British writers are, Leland, (*Collectanea*); Camden, (*Britannia*); Stukeley, (*Itiner. Curios.*); Horsley, (*Brit. Romana*); Reynolds, in his *Commentary on Itinerary of Antonine*; Lysons, (*Roman Bath*); Collinson, (*History of Somerset*); Phelps, (*History of Somerset*); Warner (*History of Bath*); Sir R. C. Hoare, (*Ancient Wilts*); and others in more recent times, as the Rev. J. Mc Caul, (*Brit. Rom. Insc.*), and Prof. Hübner (*Ins. Rom. Britt.*)

---

## SYNOPSIS OF ROMAN SOMERSET.

### ROMAN CITIES.

*Aquæ Solis* or Bath, *Ilchester*. The Foss Road passes through each of these cities.<sup>1</sup>

Ilchester has been enclosed by a wall and ditch, which can be traced all round. The Foss Road passes through the station from N.E. to S.W. The north-east wall of the city was to the river. Coins, bricks, pottery, are constantly dug up, and tessellated pavement with hypocaust has been found, as well as old foundations, burials, &c.

Stukeley, p. 72, gives the drawing of a brass coin found at Ilchester :—

*Ob.* ANTONINVS AVG. PIVS. P.P. TR.P. XV.

Head of Antoninus.

*Rev.* BRITANNIA. COS.

Britannia seated on a rock.

(1). For particulars of "*Aquæ Solis*" see Collinson's *Hist. of Somerset*, Phelps' *Hist. of Somerset*, Warner's *Hist. of Bath*, Scarth's *Aquæ Solis*, and Hübner's *Inscrip. Rom. Brit.* For *Ischalis* or Ilchester, mentioned by the geographer, Ptolemy, see also Stukeley's *Itin. Cur.*

A gold ring was also found at Ilchester, having the head of the Emperor Severus, and coins of Anton. Pius and Constantine. Portions of the causeway crossing the ford over the river are said still to be visible.<sup>2</sup>

At the Manor Farm, Ilchester, an interment was found with a Roman coin in the mouth, also a bead of coal money.<sup>3</sup>

#### ROMAN PORTS ON THE SEVERN.

*Brean Down*, south side of Weston Bay — earthworks. Roman station, "*Ad Axium*,"<sup>4</sup> was at Uphill; Roman remains are found there, and foundations of buildings. Roman coins have been found on Brean Down. From hence the Roman road passed through the mineral district of Mendip to Old Sarum, in Wilts—along the line of this road many Roman vestiges remain, especially at Charterhouse on Mendip.

*Sea Mills*, probably "*Abona*,"<sup>5</sup> on the Avon, Gloucestershire side. *Camp*, Roman funereal monument inscribed,<sup>6</sup> pottery, coins, &c.

*Uxella*, (?) near Bridgwater. The position of this town needs confirmation. Roman remains are found on the high ground; but no inscription has yet been discovered to authenticate the place.

#### ROMAN CAMPS, OR CAMPS OCCUPIED DURING THE ROMAN PERIOD, BUT NOT ALWAYS OF ROMAN CONSTRUCTION.

Many British camps have been occupied by the Romans at a later date, and coins of the Roman period found in them, as well as Roman pottery. This is the case at *Worlebury*, near Weston-super-Mare.<sup>7</sup>

(2). See *Som. Arch. Soc. Proc.*, 1853, part ii. p. 104.

(3). See *Som. Arc. Soc. Proc.*, 1871, p. 123-4.

(4). There is no classical authority for this name, it is only adopted by Antiquaries, as Sir R. C. Hoare, as a convenient appellation for the Roman port which existed at the mouth of the river Axe.

(5). See *Itin. of Antonine*, xiv; also *Bath Field Club Proc.*, vol. i.

(6). See *Archæological Journal*, vol. xxxi, p. 41.

(7). See *Somerset Archæological Society Proc.*, and *Journal of British Archæological Association*, vol. xxxi, p. 266.

*Dolebury*, on the Mendips (where other Camps of pre-Roman origin, but occupied in Roman times, are to be found).

*Maesbury*, on the line of the Roman road along the Mendip Hills, and not far from the point where it is cut by the Foss road.<sup>8</sup>

*Stoke-sub-Hamdon*,<sup>9</sup> where the lines of the Roman camp are clearly marked within the circuit of the British fortification, and also a small Roman amphitheatre. This lies on the line of the Foss road, and seems to have protected it.

*Cadbury*, between Tickenham and Clevedon, where Roman coins have been found, and the remains of a villa below the camp.<sup>10</sup>

*North Cadbury*, near Wincanton.<sup>11</sup>

*Banwell Camp*, and earthwork near it which contains a stone and earthen inner structure in the form of a cross.<sup>12</sup>

*Roman Camp at Uphill*, and earthworks on Brean Down.

*Roman Camp at Burrington*, commanding the pass through the Mendip.

*Remains of Roman Camp at Charterhouse* on Mendip, almost effaced. Amphitheatre on the hill side, half a mile distant. "Town-field" covered with Roman debris, and reliques of ancient smelting.<sup>13</sup>

(8). This camp has a very perfect vallum and a foss, which are doubled on the N.W. side. The entrances are perfect, but the vallum, near the east entrance, has been partly levelled and carted away. I visited this camp Sept., 1876.

(9). Roman coins, see *Som. Arc. Soc. Proc.*, 1853, p. 11; also 1871, p. 57; also 1872, p. 72; and *Archæologia*, vol. xxi, p. 39. For plan of camp see *Som. Arch. Soc. Proc.*, p. 84 (1853).

(10). For plan of camp see *Journal of Brit. Arch. Assoc.*, 1875, page 70.

(11). See *Som. Arc. Soc. Proc.*, 1870, p. 18, and Gough's *Camden's Brit. Somerset*, p. 92, which speaks of squared stones, fibulæ, Roman coins, &c., being found within the camp.

(12). See Hoare's *Anc. Wilts, Rom. Period*. Also, *The Romans in Britain*, by H. C. Coote, F.S.A., p. 101.

(13). Roman pig of lead, found 1873. See *Journal of Arc. Assoc.*, June, 1875,

IMP. CAES. ANTONINI. PII. PP. ;

also Roman pig of lead found June, 1876, inscribed on the top—

IMP. VESPASIAN. AVG. ;

on the side—

BRIT. EX. ARG. VE.

In July, 1876, another—

IMP. VESPASIANI.



At *Chisley Mount*, opposite Bridgwater, Roman coins are said to have been found.<sup>14</sup>

Bridgwater is regarded as the ancient *Uxella* of Ptolemy, because it is situated on the river flowing into the *Uxella Æstuarium*, but this is uncertain.<sup>15</sup>

*Cadbury Camp*, above Yatton, a slight entrenchment runs round the summit of the hill, described in Rutter's *Somerset*, p. 73. At the foot of the hill, just above the village of Yatton, Roman interments were found, and an urn, holding nearly two gallons of Roman coins of the lower empire.<sup>16</sup> In July, 1877, an interment was found on the north side, near the summit of the hill, being that of a female of middle age, and with it a whorle of Kimmeridge coal and pieces of Roman pottery, Samian, Durobrivian, and black coarse ware; also a coin of Constantine the Great, A.D. 323 or 324.<sup>17</sup>

Camp upon *Clifton Down*, although probably not originally Roman, has been occupied by the Romans, and Roman coins and other remains have been found at the Hot Wells.<sup>18</sup>

*Walcot*, near Bath, on the line of the Foss road as it leaves Bath.<sup>19</sup>

On *Lansdown* are traces of two *Castra Æstiva*.

Also one such camp on the Down above *Bathwick Hill*, now almost obliterated.

The Roman Station at *Bitton*,<sup>20</sup> in Gloucestershire, is still very distinct, on the line of the *Via Julia*.

(14). I have not examined this station personally, but it is mentioned in Reynolds's *Iter Britanniarum*. Collinson supposes Bridgwater to have sprung from the ruins of a Roman settlement at the west end of Polden Hill, where coins and old foundations of buildings have been discovered. (See Aubrey's *Mon. Brit. MS.*)

(15). See *Som. Arc. Soc. Proc.*, 1854, p. 85.

(16). See *Som. Arc. and Nat. Hist. Soc. Proc.*, vol. vi., p. 59, 1851.

(17). See *Som. Arc. and Nat. Hist. Soc. Proc.*, vol. xxiii., part 2, p. 8, 1877.

(18). See Sayers's *History of Bristol*; also *Archæologia*, vol. xlv.

(19). See Stukeley, *Itin. Cur.*

(20). Near Bitton a Roman bath of rude construction was uncovered in 1850. The sides were formed of rude slabs of stone, the one being let into the other by means of a groove. An account of this was sent by me to the *Som. Arch. Soc.*, but it was mislaid.

*Castle Neroche*<sup>21</sup> seems to have been occupied by the Romans, having first been a British earthwork. A branch of the Roman Foss road passed underneath. Coarse Roman pottery and an iron sword have been found there, and scoriæ, cinders, and horse shoes at Staple Fitzpaine.

*Compton Dundon*, beacon(?).

A Roman Camp is situated on the hill south of *Dunster Castle*, and in the park; the hill is called Gallows Hill. The rampart and trench are perfect, except in places where the materials of the vallum have been carried away for road making. The situation is commanding, and overlooks the bay between Blue Anchor and Warren point, near Minehead. It is distant only 4 and 6 miles from Treborough and Luxborough, where Roman coins and mining implements have been found. There is a second earthwork at a short distance from this clearly discernible from Grabbist Hill.

At *Blaise Castle*, near Henbury, are remains of an ancient earthwork.<sup>22</sup> Roman coins have been found here, one of

AVRELIANVS. COS III., i.e., A.D. 275.

A straight road leads from Henbury to the Severn, called "Chittening Street."<sup>23</sup>

An account of a camp, called *Ruborough Camp*, on the Quantock Hills, in the parish of Broomfield, will be found in the *Journal of the British Arch. Assoc.*, vol. xiii, p. 294 (1857). Roman remains (coins, querns, &c.) have been found within it. It is not mentioned either by Collinson or Phelps.

Near *Wiveliscombe* is a Camp where Roman coins have been found.

Near to *Douseborough Camp* on the Quantocks, at Putsham, in the parish of Kilve, coins of Diocletian, Maximian, Gallienus, and the 30 Tyrants, have been found.<sup>24</sup>

(21). See *Som. Arc. Soc. Proc.*, 1854, p. 41.

(22). For Plan and Description see Seyer's *Hist. of Bristol*.

(23). See *Som. Arc. and Nat. Hist. Soc. Proc.*, vol. xxii, p. 15.

(24). See Collinson's *Hist. of Som.*

Near *Bicknoller*, on the Quantocks, are Trendle Castle and Turks Castle.<sup>25</sup>

Near *Milverton*, one mile west from Bathealton Church, is a camp, nearly circular, in which Roman coins have been found.

*Chard*.—No Roman remains have been found in this town, though they have been discovered in the immediate neighbourhood.

*Taunton*.—Roman remains have been found in the town, A.D. 1643, under the foundations of an old house near the Castle.<sup>26</sup> Also in pulling down an old house in Saint James's parish, a coin of Vespasian, Judæa Capta. In 1861 Roman pottery was found in Fore Street, at a depth of some feet, in front of the West of England and South Wales Bank. A specimen of this is now in the Museum at the Castle. Traces of a Roman road are found at *Plaistreet*.

At Conquest, three miles north of Taunton, Roman coins have been found in large quantities, and on the opposite side, at Holway. There is a street, called *Silver Street*, under which is an ancient buried roadway, which was laid open in 1877.<sup>27</sup>

Roman remains are found at Holway, and traces of their occupation—urns, skeletons, two conical pits, coins.

#### ROMAN ROADS.

The principal Roman road in Somerset was the Foss, which came from Muridunum (Seaton), at the mouth of the Axe, the "*Alaenus fluvius*" of Ptolemy, and passed into Somerset eastward of Chard and of Seavington, where a Roman villa has been found, and between South Petherton and Stoke-sub-Hamdon, where Roman remains have also been found and Roman station existed, on to Ilchester. Hence it ran in almost a straight line to Bath, leaving Shepton Mallet a little to the west, beyond which it cut the Roman road (*Iter ad Axium*),

(25). See Collinson iii, 512.

(26). See Toulmin's *Hist. of Taunton*, 1791).

(27). See a paper, read on the name *Silver Street* by J. H. Pring, M.D., in this vol.

coming from the Mendip mining district to Old Sarum. Not very far from the point where the two roads intersected is the strong position of Maesbury. At Camerton many Roman remains and foundations of buildings have been found on its line, and it is probable that a posting station in Roman times existed there,<sup>28</sup> the distance being within eight miles of Bath.

At Bath it met the *Via Julia* coming out of South Wales, which line of road entered Somerset a little east of the Roman station at Bitton, and entered Bath beyond Weston and the Park. The two lines of road having coalesced, passed on through Walcot to Batheaston, where they again divided, and the Foss passed on in the direction of Colerne, and so quitted Somerset. At Colerne the remains of a *Roman Villa* have been laid open. The "Via Julia" passed on towards Marlborough, up the hill at Bathford. These roads have been distinctly traced, and are well known, so also is the "Via ad Axium," which, coming from Old Sarum, passed through the mineral district of the Mendip Hills to a port at the mouth of the Axe, of which Brean Down forms the chief feature. This road has been surveyed and planned by Sir R. C. Hoare in the first volume of his *Roman Wilts*. There are, however, traces of other Roman roads which cannot be so distinctly made out. Thus, a line of Roman road appears to have come from Portbury, near the Severn, and passed on to near Yatton under Cadbury Hill, where Roman remains and interments have been found, and so on to Churchill and under Dolebury towards Axbridge. The traces of this are less certain than the others.

Also, a line of Roman road seems to have passed by Brent Knoll towards Highbridge, and on towards Bridgwater. This, however, has not been sufficiently investigated. It has been traced across Brent Marsh, and is found about six feet under the present surface.<sup>29</sup>

At Ilchester a Roman road coming from Dorchester met the

(28). See *Som. Arc. Soc. Proc.*, vol. xi, p. 174, and following, 1861-2.

(29). See *Som. Arc. and Nat. Hist. Proc.* for 1850, p. 104, part 2.

Foss, and is said to be traceable thence in the direction of Street and Glastonbury. This road enters Somerset near to Closworth, and passes northward, by Yeovil, to Ilchester. On the line of this road, to the west of it, the Roman villa at East Coker was found, and the Roman villa at Pitney is placed on the line passing from Ilchester to Street and Glastonbury.

The Foss road, after quitting Ilchester southward, and passing on to Petherton Bridge, is supposed to have divided into two branches; one through Stratton to Dennington, Whitedown, Street, and Axminster; the other through Watergore, Hurcott, Atherstone, Broadway, and over the common towards Castle Neroche.<sup>30</sup>

The Roman road from Glastonbury to West Pennard passes, at about two miles from the former place, between two hamlets, one called *East Street*, the other *Woodland Street*. These are situated on each side of the isthmus which connects (what was once) the Island of Avalon with the higher ground; and on the Glastonbury side of these hamlets a vallum of great magnitude extends across the rising ground, from one marsh to the other, separating the peninsula of Avalon from the higher lands. This vallum is called "Ponter's Ball."<sup>31</sup>

*Romansleigh Ridge* passed out of Devonshire from the sea coast, at Stratton, and came eastward to Berry Castle, in Devon, where it crossed a known Roman road from Exeter (*Isca Damnoniorum*) towards Countisbury, in North Devon, and then pointed towards Wiveliscombe, and so on towards Bridgwater (*Uxella*?).

*Plaice Street* runs towards Norton Camp, near Taunton, and is supposed to have passed through it. (?)<sup>32</sup>

(30) See *Som. Arc. Soc. Proc.*, 1853, part ii.

(31) See *Som. Arc. Soc. Proc.*, vol. ix, p. 144, 1859.

(32). Collinson (*Hist. Som.*, Intro., p. xxiii), speaking of the Roman roads in Somerset, and specifying particularly the Foss, says, "Another ran nearly parallel to it from the forest of Exmoor, through Taunton, Bridgwater, Axbridge, to Portishead on the Bristol Channel, where it intersected the Wansdike, and whence there was a 'trajectus' to the city of *Isca Silurum*, now called Caerleon, in the county of Monmouth."



A straight road leads from Henbury (where there is an earth-work) to the Severn, called "Chittening Street."

In an old map of Kings Forest, near Bristol, dated 1610, a road is indicated between Henbury and Bitton, and called "Auguste Causeway."<sup>33</sup>

#### ROMAN VILLAS

Commencing with the country surrounding the city of Bath, we have villas at—

Bathford : pavement.

Box : pavement, Wilts.

Colerne : in Wilts, a little beyond the borders of Somerset, pavement.

Camerton : foundations of houses, coins, pottery.<sup>34</sup>

North Wraxall, in Wilts.<sup>35</sup>

Combe Down : remains of columns, walls, and hypocaust, and burials, coins, &c.<sup>36</sup>

Lansdown, at Wick : interments in stone coffins, near Langridge.

Cold Harbour Farm, near Tracey Park.<sup>37</sup>

Newton St. Loe : pavements removed, and remains destroyed.<sup>38</sup>

Wellow : pavements preserved, and drawings made by Rev. J. Skinner.

Farley Hungerford : remains of walls, &c.

Iford, between Bath and Bradford on Avon.

High Ham, near Langport.<sup>39</sup>

Dishcove, near Bruton : Roman pavement, discovered 1711.<sup>40</sup>

Under North Cadbury, near Tickenham : coins and remains of a villa.

(33). See *Som. Arc. Soc. Proc.*, vol. xxii, p. 15.

(34). See *Som. Arc. Soc. Proc.*, vol. xi, p. 179,

(35). See *Wilts Arc. Mag.*

(36). See *Aquæ Solis*.

(37). See *Proc. of Bath Field Club*.

(38). Museum of remains collected by Mr. Glover, school master. See *Aquæ Solis*.

(39). See *Proc. of Som. Arc. Soc.*, 1861-2, p. 33.

(40). See Gough's *Camden, Somerset*.

Beyond Cadbury, near Yatton, on the grounds of Capt. Long : coins and remains of a villa.

On Havyatt Green, between Wrington and Burrington, on the line of the Bridgwater road : coins and remains of villa.<sup>41</sup>

At Lyehole Farm, parish of Wrington, 1876 : partially opened in October, by H. M. Scarth.<sup>42</sup>

Edington, west of Glastonbury : pavement.<sup>43</sup>

East Coker, Somerset.<sup>44</sup>

Pitney : pavements.<sup>45</sup>

Petherton (South), near Bridge : coins ; and at mill near it, foundations, urns, coins ; also at Watergore, pavements ; at Wigborough, foundations.

Seavington, Portbury : foundations and coins.

Wadeford, Combe St. Nicholas : pavements.<sup>46</sup>

Whately, near Frome : pavement, hypocaust, coins, &c.

Wincanton : Roman pillar, carved stones, tesserae, and coins.<sup>47</sup>

#### ROMAN POTTERS' KILNS, AND MOUNDS OF ROMAN POTTERY.

Shepton Mallet : six kilns, one perfect.<sup>48</sup>

Huntspill : pottery kilns, scoriæ, &c.

Norton Fitzwarren : Romano-British pottery—some imperfectly manufactured, and cast aside.<sup>49</sup>

Burtles : mounds, containing hundreds of loads of Roman pottery, found in the turbaries.<sup>50</sup>

Chilton Polden : pottery kilns, and moulds for casting coins.<sup>51</sup>

Bathampton, near Bath (18th July, 1876, visited by Somerset Archæological Society) : much Roman pottery found in making

(41). See Skinner's MSS. letters, Bath Lit. and Sci. Inst.

(42). See *Proc. of Soc. of Antiq.*

(43). See Gough's *Camden*, p. 99.

(44). See *Journal of Brit. Archæological Association*, vol. iv.

(45). See Phelps's *Somerset*.

(46). *Som. Arc. Soc. Proc.*, vol. xiii, p. 61, 1865-6, and 1868, p. 63.

(47). See *Som. Arc. Soc. Proc.*

(48). See *Som. Arc. Soc. Proc.*, vol. xiii, part ii, p. 1.

(49). See *Som. Arc. Soc. Proc.*, 1861-2, vol. xi, p. 33.

(50). See *Som. Arc. Soc. Proc.*, 1849, pp. 55, &c.

(51). See *Som. Arc. and Nat. Hist. Proc.*, 1849, p. 59.

a gravel pit on the south side of the canal.<sup>52</sup> One small red vase, nearly perfect. Every species of pottery, from the fine red to the coarse black.

ROMAN PIGS OF LEAD, "MASSÆ PLUMBI."

Wookey, near Wells :

TI. CLAUDIVS CAES. AVG. P.M.

TRIB. P. VIII. IMP. XVI. DE. BRITAN.

(Date, A.D. 49.)

Blagdon : BRITANNICI AVG. FI. on the face.

V. ET. P. in small letters,

twice repeated on the side. (Date, A.D. 49.)

Charterhouse on Mendip : in June, 1876 ; weight, 143 lb :

IMP. VESPASIAN. AVG. on face.

BRIT. EX. ARG. VE. on front or side.

A.D. 70 ?

In July, 1876 ; weight, 2 cwt :

IMP. VESPASIANI.

In July, 1873 ; weight, 223 lb :

IMP. CAES. ANTONINI. AVG. PII.P.P.

A.D. 139—161.

Also laminæ, or bands of lead of different thicknesses, bearing the Imperial stamp.<sup>53</sup>

Wade Street, Bristol, on the banks of the river Frome : two pigs (weight, 76 lb. and 89 lb.), inscribed—

IMP. CAES. AN. — NINI. AVG. PII.P.P.

A.D. 139—161.

Bath, Sydney Buildings : weight, 195 lb.—

IMP. HADRIANI. AVG.

A.D. 117—138.

Bruton :

IMP. DVOR. AVG. ANTONINI.

ET. VERI. ARMENIACORVM.

(52). See *Som. Arc. Soc. Proc.*, vol. xxii, p. 51. Supposed to be the refuse of a Roman smithy.

(53). See *Proc. of Soc. of Antiq.*, London, April, 1874.

A.D. 164.<sup>54</sup>

Laminae, or plates of lead, bearing same inscription, have been found at Charterhouse on Mendip.<sup>55</sup>

ROMAN IRON MINES IN SOMERSET.

Iron ore is found at Treborough and Luxborough in the rocks of the Devonian series. That the Romans worked these mines is proved by the coins and mining implements discovered in the refuse matter.<sup>56</sup>

ROMAN INSCRIBED STONES FOUND IN SOMERSET.

*Inscriptions* have been found plentifully in Bath, and for these I must refer to Collinson's *Somerset*, Phelps's *Somerset*, Warner's *History of Bath*, and to *Aquæ Solis*; also to Hübner's *Inscriptiones Brit. Latinæ*, and Mc Caul's *Romano Brit. Inscriptions*. But few have been found out of Bath.

One at West Coker.<sup>57</sup>

DEO MARTI  
RIGISAMO  
IVENTIVS  
SABINVS  
VSLLM

One at Camerton.<sup>58</sup>

Two at Pitney.<sup>59</sup>

PATER  
PATRI  
SANC

VIXI SIN  
TRIGINTA  
QVAE CAPI  
NONO A

(54). See Stukeley's *Itin. Cur. Iter.* vi, p. 151: "Preserved in the library at Longleat, weight, 50 lb., and 1 foot 9 inches long, 3½ broad, and 2 inches thick; found in digging a hole to set a gate post in Lord Fitzharding's ground."

(55). See *Proc. of Soc. of Antiq.*, April 16th, 1874.

(56). See *Som. Arc. and Nat. Hist. Soc. Proc.*, vol. vi (1855), p. 144.

(57). See *Inscrip. Brit. Lat.*, p. 28.

(58). See *Proc. of Som. Arc. Soc.* vol. ii. 1863, p. 181; *Aq. Sol.* 79.

(59). See R. C. Hoare, *Pitney Pavement*, 1831, p. 18, 19; Phelps's *Somerset*, ii, p. 157.

One lately found at Charterhouse on Mendip.<sup>60</sup>

M  
AVG  
VO RES  
ROR FECIT  
IVCENT  
IONOR MA  
ORMIPS  
IC R

Also a few inscribed fragments, having only parts of words, found in the same place.

A Roman altar, now walled into the Church at Compton Dando, has no inscription, but seems to have been dedicated to Apollo.

#### ROMAN COINS, &c.

Places where *coins* and other *Roman remains* have been found.

Axbridge, at Weare near to, (1870), Roman coin.

Badcalford, coins.

Bagborough, cairns on top of hill called Rowboroughs, Roman coins found.

Banwell, Hamlet of Winthill, north side of Banwell Hill, Roman coins.<sup>61</sup>

Blackford, near Wedmore, coin AVGVSTVS. DIVI. F  
R/. IMP. X. *ex.* A. C.T.

Blagdon, pig of Roman lead, Britannicus.

Brent Knoll, coins.

Bridgewater.

Bruton, lead.

Burnham.

Burrington Combe, upper Cavern.<sup>62</sup>

Burtle, barrows containing many hundred loads of Roman pottery, found in the turbaries.<sup>63</sup>

(60). See *Proc. of Bath Field Club*, 1876.

(61). See Rutter's *Somerset*, p. 134.

(62). See *Som. Arc. Soc. Proc.*

(63). See *Som. Arc. and Nat. Hist. Soc. Proc.*, 1849, pp. 53, and following.



- Burtle Moor.<sup>64</sup>  
 Cadbury.  
 Castle Neroche.  
 Near Chard, at Winsham, and Street, coins.  
 Charterhouse on Mendip, lead, coins, inscriptions, pottery, &c.  
 Chedzoy, coins found in a field, and fibula, urns.  
 Chidley Mount, near Bridgwater, Roman coins.  
 Chilton Polden, moulds for casting Roman coins, in a field on the Nidon, also Roman pottery kilns, and coins.<sup>65</sup>  
 Conquest, two urns full of Roman coins.<sup>66</sup>  
 Coombe Farm, near Crewkerne, coins.  
 Corston, burials and coins.  
 Corton, near Sherborne, urns.  
 Curry Rivel.<sup>67</sup>  
 Drayton.  
 Dunpole, near Ilminster, coin found.<sup>68</sup>  
 Edington, and other villages west of Glastonbury, moulds for casting coins.<sup>69</sup>  
 Elm, in a camp, a pot full of Roman coins were dug up, mostly of the Constantine period.<sup>70</sup>  
 Emberrow, near the Church, coins.  
 Exmore, where the Exe rises, urns with Roman coins have been found, A.D. 1831.  
 Hamdon Hill.  
 High Ham, Roman remains.<sup>71</sup>  
 Holway, near Taunton, Roman coins, also traces of a road and pits.<sup>72</sup>

(64). See *Som. Arc. Soc. Proc.*, 1867.

(65). See *Som. Arc. Soc. Proc.*, p. 59, 1849.

(66). See *Som. Arc. Soc. Proc.*, p. 9, 1854.

(67). See *Som. Arc. Soc. Proc.*, 1861-2, p. 33.

(68). See *Som. Arc. Soc. Proc.*, 1872.

(69). See Gough's *Camden*, p. 99.

(70). See Stukeley.

(71). See *Som. Arc. Soc. Proc.*, vol. xi.

(72). See *Som. Arc. and Nat. Hist. Soc. Proc.*, 1854, p. 9; also vol. xii, p. 48, part 1.

Honey Ditches, Seaton, Roman leaden pipe.

Huntspill, Roman pottery kilns, scorïæ of iron, pieces of coal.

Hurcot.

Ilchester.

King's Sedgemoor, near Somerton, bone tessera, inscribed APRILIS.<sup>73</sup>

Langport, and neighbourhood, Roman road.

Long Ashton, coins.

Luxborough.

Lydeard Lawrence, an urn full of coins.

Nailsea and Ken-Moor, coins.

Norton Fitzwarren, Romano-British pottery in the railway cutting.<sup>74</sup>

North Curry, coins at Lillesdon in this parish.<sup>75</sup>

Pen Pits, Roman horse shoes.

Pitney.

Polden Hill, near Bridgwater, foundations, coins, horse trappings.

Putcombe, in parish of Kilve, coins.

Pylle, coins and urns : and Pill on the Foss, at a hamlet called Street.

Seavington.

Shapwick.<sup>76</sup>

Shepton Mallet, Roman pottery kilns.

Staple Fitzpaine, Roman horse shoes.<sup>77</sup>

Stanchester, between Langport and Curry Rivel.<sup>78</sup>

(73). See *Arc. Journal*, vol. ix, p. 107 ; also Hübner's *R. I. B.*

(74). See *Som. Arc. and Nat. Hist. Soc. Proc.*, 1861, vol. xi, p. 56.

(75). See *Gen. Mag.*, Sept., 1748.

(76). See *Som. Arc. Soc. Pro.*, 1868, p. 43.

(77). See *Som. Arc. Soc. Proc.*, 1854, p. 17.

(78). See *Som. Arc. Soc. Proc.*, 1876, vol. xxii., p. 90.

Stogumber, coins.

Sutton, coins, patera, &c.<sup>79</sup>

Taunton.

Uphill.

Wadeford.

Wiltown, Roman coins.

Wincanton, Roman coins.

Wiveliscombe, coins (A.D. 1711), 1600 in number.<sup>80</sup>

Wookey, lead.

Yanley, near Ashton, and Dundry, foundations.

(79). Gough's *Camden*, p. 99.

(80). Gough's *Camden*, p. 95.

---

# On the Course of a Roman Military Road through Somersetshire.

---

BY THE HON. AND RIGHT REV. WILLIAM CLIFFORD,

*Bishop of Clifton.*

---

THE roads which in the days of the occupation of Britain by the Romans traversed the south-western portion of our island, naturally form a very interesting subject for the study of Members of the Somerset Archæological Society, and therefore I need offer no apology for calling the attention of the Society to a Roman road which passed through Somerset, but which, as far as I can discover, has hitherto attracted but little notice. Whatever attention has been paid to the subject seems to have led to a very unsatisfactory result ; for the road, which in the Itinerary of Antoninus is clearly described as passing through Somerset, has been by some archæologists removed altogether from this part of the country, and transported to South Wales. This feat is due, I believe, in the first instance, to Richard of Cirencester, whose views have been accepted and perpetuated by subsequent writers. But inasmuch as no doubt now exists that the work ascribed to Richard is a forgery, little weight can be attached to the statements therein contained, especially if they are found to be at variance with authentic documents. The Itinerary of Antoninus, on the contrary, is for us a document of the greatest importance, as it is by far the best authority we possess on the geography of Roman Britain. This Itinerary or list of roads must not, however, be supposed to contain a description of all the roads which, at the

time of its compilation, existed throughout the provinces of the Roman empire. It enumerates only the consular roads; those roads which were planned for the military occupation of the country, and as such were kept in repair at the charge of the empire. Other roads there were, and roads of great importance, for the good of the provinces and the needs of commerce. The maintenance and repair of such roads were at the charge of the provinces, or the towns, or of those persons for whose use they were constructed; but they were not consular or imperial roads, and no mention of them must be sought for in the Itinerary. In Somerset we have examples of both kinds of road. The Foss road, one of the best known of the Roman roads in England, traverses the island from N.E. to S.W., and runs through Somerset from Bath to Ilchester. Another fine Roman road runs from Old Sarum to the Bristol Channel, along the Mendip Hills, through the district of the Roman lead mines. It has been carefully marked out and described by Prebendary Scarth, who has devoted much time and study to the subject of Roman antiquities in this county. Both these were commercial roads, and therefore, though undoubtedly of Roman origin, they are not mentioned in the Itinerary of Antoninus. Of consular roads there were but two in Somerset. One went through Bath; it formed part of the great military road which led from "Venta Silurum" (Caerleon, near Newport, in South Wales), the chief station of the 2nd Legion (Legio Augusta), to the central station of Caleva Atrebatum (Silchester, south of Reading). Only a few miles of this road passed through the north-east corner of Somerset. The other military road passing through this county is the one to which I wish at present more particularly to call attention. In the Itinerary it is marked 12th in order, and is described as follows: "Iter xii a Caleva per Muridunum Vericomium M.P. CCLXXXVI." It is a long and circuitous route, 286 miles in length, starting from Caleva (Silchester), and going through Venta Belgarum (Winchester), Sorbiodunum (Old Sarum), Durnoveria (Dorchester), Moridunum



(near Sidmouth?), Isca Damnoniorum (Exeter), Isca Silurum (Caerleon), till it reaches the final station of Vericomium (Wroxeter). The strategic value of this route was to connect together all the great forts on the south and west of Britain—that portion of the island which was more especially under the protection of the 2nd Legion, whose principal station was at Caerleon. At Wroxeter, the last and most northern point of this route, the 2nd Legion was relieved by the 20th Legion, whose principal station was at Deva (Chester). It is not my object at present to enter more fully into the particulars of this route; I mean to confine myself to the consideration of that portion of it which lies between Exeter and Caerleon.

I have already remarked that the Itinerary is one of the most important documents we possess relative to the geography of Roman Britain. It is of great antiquity, dating probably from the 2nd century, and certainly not later than the 4th, and its general accuracy is confirmed by observations which have been made throughout the countries which formed portions of the Empire. That occasional errors are to be found in a document of this nature, consisting of numerals and of proper names of places, which to a Roman scribe must have appeared as strange as those of localities in India or Africa appear to most Englishmen of the present day, is a fact not to be wondered at; more especially when we reflect that all the editions of the Itinerary we now possess are derived from a single ancient copy, the only one which has been preserved. Such errors, however, are not very numerous, and their existence must not be arbitrarily assumed. Our first duty in such cases is to take the document as it stands, to compare its statements with the localities as they now exist, so far as it is possible for us to do so; to take also into account the great changes which 1500 years have made in the geology no less than in the geography of the land, and not to impute error to the document till it becomes clear that no other mode of solution is possible.

With regard to the portion of Roman road now under consideration, the Itinerary expresses itself as follows :—

Ab Isca Damnoniorum—

Leucaro	..	..	m.p. xv.
Nido	..	..	m.p. xv.
Bomio	..	..	m.p. xv.
Iscae Leg. ii. Aug.	..	..	m.p. xxviii.

Let us compare this statement with the present features of the country. The journey from Isca Damnoniorum to Isca Silurum is put down as 73 miles; the actual distance from Exeter to Caerleon, as the crow flies, is something over 60. So far then the words of the Itinerary derive support from actual observation, for a road extending over 73 miles, and connecting several towns together, is sure to deviate from a straight line, and 12 miles is not much to allow for such deviation. One thing is clear, if we accept the statement of the Itinerary, the route cannot (as some suppose), have gone from Exeter to the north of Devon, and then crossed over the sea to Wales, near Neath, and thence followed the coast line to Newport and Caerleon. Such a route would almost double in length the one named in the Itinerary. If the Roman road was only 73 miles in length, it could not avoid going through Somerset. The manner in which the stations were distributed along the road next demands consideration. The whole distance is divided into four stages. The first three, after leaving Exeter, are equal in length, fifteen miles each. The fourth is almost as long as two of the others put together, being not less than 28 miles. At first sight this arrangement appears strange, but, if we cast our eye on the map, a ready explanation presents itself. Between Exeter and the south coast of the Bristol Channel is a long tract of land; from that coast to Newport (which is only three miles from Caerleon) is a wide expanse of water. The first part of the journey therefore was across land: it had to be performed on foot, and, accordingly, it is divided into three stages or marches of 15 miles each. The latter part had to be performed in

transports across the Channel, and, therefore, it formed a single stage or transit of 28 miles. Thus the configuration of land and water gives further indirect support to the accuracy of the Itinerary.

We must now inquire whether any traces are to be found of the three stations themselves, the names of which are recorded as Leucus, Nidus, and Bomium. If we leave Exeter and proceed in a north-easterly direction we shall, after a journey of fifteen miles (the distance of the first stage mentioned in the Itinerary), come upon a most remarkable earthwork of great strength, with many marks of Roman occupation, situated on the brow of one of the spurs of the Blackdown Hills. It bears the name of "Hembury Fort." Between this spot and Exeter we pass more than one place bearing the name of *Street*, and the remains of a Roman causeway are marked in a map of the last century as visible in this direction. "Hembury Fort" may well indicate the locality of the Roman station Leucus. The name itself is probably not void of significance. The names given by the Romans to British towns were for the most part Latin modifications of those used by the natives. It seems easy to recognise in the second half of the form Leucus, the British word *Caer* or *Castle*. Leucus is probably nothing else but *Leon-caer* or *Caer-leon*, the Castle of the Legion, an appellation which we find applied by the Britons to several Roman strongholds. *Venta Silurum* was not the only place so called. *Caer-leon* was the British name, also, of *Deva* (Chester, a stronghold of the 20th Legion), as we learn from *Beda*; and *Carlisle* (a derivation from *Caerleon*) marks the site of *Luguvallium*, the station at the western extremity of *Hadrian's Wall*. *Ptolomy*, in his geographical description of Britain, places a station of the 2nd Legion in the vicinity of *Isca Damnoniorum* or Exeter. Some writers have supposed this to be an error for *Isca Silurum*, which was undoubtedly a station of that legion. But I see no sufficient reason why we should doubt the accuracy

of Ptolomy's statement, nor why a stronghold of the 2nd Legion may not have existed near Exeter simultaneously with, or prior to, the one at Caerleon. This was probably the case during the early period of the occupation, when Ptolomy wrote. But as the Damnonians, after their first resistance and defeat by the Romans, soon settled down peaceably under the dominion of their conquerors, the fort near Exeter probably ceased to be of much importance. The restless spirit of the Silurians and Demetae on the other hand, obliged the Romans to keep a strong garrison on their frontier, and thus Venta Silurum on the Wye became the chief residence of the 2nd Legion. Caerleon, on the south extremity of the Welch frontier, and Deva (Chester), also called Caerleon, on the northern extremity, always remained important strongholds, the former of the 2nd Legion, the latter of the 20th.

If Hembury Fort marks the position of Leucarus, where shall we place the next station *Nidus*? We must look for it some 15 miles further on, in the direction of the Bristol Channel. This brings us to the neighbourhood of Taunton. At Taunton itself Roman coins have been dug up, and the circumstance of Ine having built a castle there, would seem to indicate that the position was considered to be a strong one, and was, not improbably, fortified before his time. At Norton Fitzwarren an ancient camp exists, and in the valley below it large quantities of Romano-British pottery have been discovered. Roman coins have also been found at Holway near Taunton. These are all indications of Roman occupation, and taken in conjunction with the distance of these places from Hembury and the coast, they seem to give fair ground for believing that at one of them, or in their immediate vicinity, stood the station of *Nidus*. More than this it may not be prudent to assert in the present state of our researches, but if future explorations in the neighbourhood are rewarded with the discovery of more coins and other Roman remains, much light may be thrown on the question, and it is not unreasonable to hope that in time the site of *Nidus* may be accurately determined. Canon Jones, in some remarks which he published in



the *Wiltshire Archæological and Natural History Magazine*, on the Celtic names of places in Wiltshire, observes that *Nid* is a common Celtic appellation for places situated near water. If *Nidus* be derived from the British *Nid*, the town or station may have been so called from being situated on the Tone, or in proximity to the marshes which in those days extended for a considerable distance along the banks of the river.

We must await the result of further explorations before we can venture to determine with accuracy the line of the road between Leucarus and Nidus. Traces of a Roman road have been observed along what now is a turnpike road across the Blackdown Hills, from near Hembury Fort to a point above Otterford, and thence to Taunton; but I am inclined to think that the road mentioned in the Itinerary was rather more to the west, and that it followed the course of a road marked in an old map of Devonshire, in a direct line from Hembury Fort to Culm Bridge, crossing the downs and entering the Vale of Taunton somewhat east of the Wellington Monument. Shortly after passing this spot we come upon two places, one bearing the name of Ford Street, the other of Silver Street, a third is called Stert, a fourth Old Way, and there is a place called Little Silver not far from Ford Street. These are usually indications of an ancient road.<sup>1</sup> Future observations may throw much light on this point.<sup>2</sup>

(1). See an interesting paper by Dr. Pring in the present number of our Journal.

(2). It is of great importance that whenever any coins or pottery, or other marks of ancient occupation are discovered, an exact record should be kept of the precise locality where the discovery is made. Such indications are of great help in determining the course of an ancient road, especially when they occur in any frequency. They mark the sites of the habitations of men, and these usually follow the course of roads. It would be a good help towards the formation of a correct map of the Roman roads through Somerset (a work in which Prebendary Scarth has long been engaged) if every member or friend of our Society, whenever he discovers or hears of the discovery of any relics of antiquity of any kind, would ascertain the locality with as much precision as possible, and notify the same by letter to the Secretary of our Society at the Castle, Taunton, so that the site might be marked on a map kept for the purpose, and the information be put on record for the benefit of all who are engaged in these researches.



There still remains a third station to be determined. Where was Bomium? It was, says the Itinerary, 15 miles from Nidus and 28 from Caerleon. This fixes the locality somewhere near the mouth of the Parret. The village of Combwich might be suggested. Here is a small port, and a ferry across the river. There is, moreover, an ancient camp in the immediate vicinity at Cannington Park, and at no great distance, near Cannington, there is a farm called *Gurney Street*. It has, moreover, the advantage of being situated on the left bank of the Parret, so that troops landing at this spot from Caerleon might have marched to Nidus near Taunton without having to cross the river. But Combwich is difficult of access, and the accommodation for ships is very limited. It does not therefore seem probable that this site would have been chosen for the port where transports had to assemble in order to convey troops and stores across the Bristol Channel. Moreover, the distance of Combwich from Caerleon is greater than that stated in the Itinerary to have existed between Isca and Bomium. Burnham, on the opposite shore, has from very early times been a port at the mouth of the Parret. Its name occurs in Domesday, and also in the will of King Ælfred, in the ninth century; and Mr. Bidgood, the Curator of our Museum, informs me that Roman pottery has been found at Burnham, in the brick pits, and amongst it some of the finer sort of red ware—Samian. This seems conclusive evidence that the site was occupied by the Romans, and it is probable that their port was in this vicinity. Modern Burnham is little more than 15 miles from Taunton, and about 27 from Caerleon; so that a spot a little to the south of Burnham would agree well with the distances named in the Itinerary, whereas Combwich is, by several miles, out of the reckoning. The mouth of the Parret, and all the adjoining land, is subject to constant changes,<sup>3</sup> and during the last 1500 years the line of the coast must have been altered for miles to an enormous extent.

(3). See "Notes on the Geology of Otterhampton," by Thos. Woodhouse, M.A., in our *Proceedings* of last year.

The course of the Brue has varied also. It is difficult, in consequence, at the present day, to form an opinion as to the exact spot where the port formerly stood. It seems probable that the bed of the Parret has become gradually lengthened in a northerly direction, and that anciently it reached the sea by a much shorter course across Stert Flats, between Stert Point and Stert Island. When that was the case, the site of modern Burnham can scarcely have been accessible to ships of any size, and the port must have been more to the south, probably south of the Brue. Now that it is known that Roman pottery has been found at Burnham, it is to be hoped that further discoveries may be made in the neighbourhood from time to time ; and if care is taken to mark down the spots where pottery, coins, or other objects are found, we need not despair of ultimately obtaining some accurate information concerning the site of the ancient seaport. There are evidences of an old Roman road (not one of those mentioned in the *Itinerary*, but a commercial road) running along the ridge of Polden Hill, towards the sea. In all probability it led to this port. The military road between Nidus and Bomium probably followed a direct course from Nidus across the Quantocks to Comwich—where was the passage across the Parret—and then proceeded direct to Bomium, being joined by the commercial road spoken of above, shortly before reaching the port. But here again we must wait for further discoveries before we can venture to speak positively regarding the course followed by the road.

The points which I have so far endeavoured to establish are the following :—1. If we accept the evidence of the *Itinerary* of Antoninus (the only safe guide we have in such a matter), the route followed by the Roman soldiers, marching from Exeter to Caerleon was 73 miles in length. It follows, as a necessary consequence, that the road went through Somerset. Any line drawn between these two well known points, so as to avoid Somersetshire, must exceed by a good deal the number of miles mentioned. 2. There is nothing in the topography of Somerset,

and the rest of the country lying between Exeter and Caerleon, in any way incompatible with the statements of the Itinerary; on the contrary, the distances named, and the division of the stages, is fully in accordance with the distribution of land and water along the route. 3. We possess already much confirmatory evidence regarding the exact course followed by the road, and the actual sites of the various stations, but further research is necessary before these and other questions of detail can be fully and satisfactorily solved.

This is a work which we may confidently hope will some day be accomplished by Members of the Somerset Archæological Society.

---

## On the Family of Fitzjames.

---

BY REV. FREDERICK BROWN.

---

IT may be interesting to the Members of the Somersetshire Archæological Society, and to others, to hear something about the old families who were the chief land owners in Bruton and its neighbourhood in the 16th and 17th centuries. My own researches have been confined almost exclusively to the Wills in the Prerogative Court—a rich mine of information for those who desire to investigate with accuracy the history of the County Families of England. I am not going to inflict on your patient hearing any detailed pedigree of those families to which I am about to refer, which would, in a paper like this, be wearisome and uninteresting; but I will endeavour to give you a brief account of them, introducing, now and then, a few extracts from their Wills, which may be illustrative of the names, manners, customs, dress, personal ornaments, furniture, modes of speech and of the spelling of those times, as well as some references to Historical facts and incidents.

I can tell you nothing as to the foundation, history, or suppression of Bruton Abbey—that subject I must leave to others. Old Wills rather, and such like private documents, to my mind, invest with a living and human interest the memories of those men and women, who, in particular neighbourhoods, lived, and wooed, and married, and inherited or acquired property, and acted their parts among their neighbours—oftentimes wisely and well—and were more or less personally concerned in the great events of their times, and then passed away. Their burials are too often unrecorded by any sepulchral stone in our old country Churches, and are only noted in the old Parochial

Registers, but, in many cases, they left behind them memorials of their goodness and generosity.

The first name that will occur to the minds of Bruton men is that of Hugh Sexey, the founder of the Hospital. According to the inscriptions on the Hospital, Hugh Sexey filled the office of Auditor of the Imprest to Queen Elizabeth and James I. Phelps, in his *History of Somerset*, says "He was a native of Bruton—born of humble parents—and having attained a little learning at the Grammar School, by upright and steady conduct he rose into public notice, and eventually obtained a high official position under the Crown, having meanwhile acquired considerable property in the counties of Somerset and Gloucestershire." No mention of the Hospital is made in his Will, but it seems that during his life he conveyed certain manors and estates to Sir Lawrence Hyde and others, upon trust, that the said estates should be employed to such charitable and good uses as he should by any writing or will appoint. The Deed of Incorporation is an indenture dated Dec. 10, 1638, almost twenty years after his death. All that I can tell you of his personal history is that, in 1611 he married, at Cloford, Somerset, Dec. 19, Ursula Champernoun, a step-daughter of Thomas Horner, Esq.; she proved his Will, Aug. 21, 1619. He describes himself as of St. Giles Cripplegate, London; mentions his wife, Ursula, and his Manor of Blackford, Somerset; and Thomas Bancke, and Ann, his wife—"my kinswoman." This is all; he had evidently no children. The only monument he left is "Hugh Sexey's Hospital."

We next come to the Fitzjames family, to members of which the Bruton Grammar School owes its foundation. It was not established by bequests of land or money, but by gifts in the lifetime of its founders. The documents connected with its foundation are still extant, and are published in the Charity Commissioners' Reports. The foundation deed of the school is an indenture dated Sept. 24, 11th Henry VIII (1520), the parties to the deed being Richard Fitzjames, Bishop of London;



John Fitzjames, and John Edmondes, Clerk, D.D., on the 1st part; Richard, Abbot of Glastonbury, Somerset, on the 2nd part; Richard Pers, Prior of the Charter House, Witham, Somerset, on the 3rd part; and William Gilbert, Abbot of Brewton, Somerset, on the 4th part. But I do not wish now to dwell on the Grammar School, but on the Fitzjames family.

The first of the family about whom anything definite is known, is mentioned in *The Herald's Visitation of the County of Somerset*. James Fitzjames lived in the 15th century, and married Eleanor Draycot, the heiress of Redlynch, which place became henceforth the residence of the Fitzjames family.

They had three sons. The eldest son, John Fitzjames, who was aged 42 in 1485, died 1510. He styles himself in his Will, which is in Latin, "Senior, of Redlynch." He desires burial in the Priory Church of Bruton; leaves a spice plate to "my dear Brother Richard, Bishop of London," and a silver bowl to "each of my daughters." "Unum ciphum argenteum, vocatum, 'a bolle.'" He makes Isabella, his wife, and John Fitzjames, his son, executors; proved Dec. 10, 1510. His widow, Isabella Fitzjames, who was his second wife and a widow, made her Will Feb. 22, 1527. She bequeathes money "to the Chapel of St. Peters at Redlynch;" "to my daughter Lady Fitzjames, a girdle of gold harneysed with gold;" "to my daughter Elizabeth Fitzjames the younger, a gowne of chamlett, purfilled with crymson velvett;" "to my son Hugh Malet of Corypoole, a goblett gilte, bering arms of liberts' heds;" "to my godson Thomas Malet, a goblett gilte with the arms of Portcullis and the Rose, and 6 sylver spoonys;" "to my daughter Isabel Malet, a 'nutte,' gilte, with a cover to the same, and a Mary Mawdelyn box with a cover;" "to my son Thomas Michel, 2 counterpoynts, on with the image of our Ladie, the other with dyvers ymagery work;" "to my daughter Jane Michell, a gowne of chamlett, furred with shanks;" "to my Lord of Bruton, a cruet of silver and gilt to serve him at his masse;" "to the Prior of Charterhouse" (Witham?) "an ale cuppe of sylver;" "to every

Chanon of the House of Bruton, being a Prest, 20d., to every novys, 8d.—one of the Chanons to sing at my later husband's aulter daily within the Monastery, praying for his soule, and my soule, and for all my good friends' soules." In a codicil, she says, "My cosin Alice Storke shall have my best bonet and a frontlet of tawny velvet ; Joan Compton, daughter of the said Alice, my best worsted kirtle ; and William Clements, scolar of Oxford, shall have a peir of blankets, a bollster, and 26s. 8d. in money to his exhibicion." Proved Oct. 23, 1527.

Another brother of this John Fitzjames was the ancestor of another branch of this family, who eventually settled in Dorsetshire.

The third brother was Richard Fitzjames, who was Warden of Merton College, Oxford ; consecrated to the see of Rochester, May 17, 1497 ; translated, by bull of Pope Julius II, Nov. 29, 1503, to Chichester ; and again translated to the Bishopric of London, Aug. 2, 1506. He died Jan. 15, 1521-2. There is much about this man of historical interest. I am sorry to say he took an active part in the prosecution of the Protestants, in the reign of Henry VIII. He assisted in the foundation of Bruton Grammar School. In his Will, dated April 11, 1518, part of which is in Latin, he desires to be buried "in the nave of my Cathedral Church of St. Paule, London, under the altar of St. Paul of my own foundation, or in the belfry, under the tomb of marble lately erected and prepared by me." And then follows, among other legacies, a kind and thoughtful request :—"I woll that my paire of portatyves in my Chapell in my Place of London, myn organs also beyng and standing in my Chapells within my 3 Manors of Fullham, Hadham, and Wykeham, shall there stand styll and remayn to my successor, the next Bisshop of London, that they may be used there to the house and service of God. Item : I woll that all my baking and brewing vessells and instruments and things necessary and belonging therto, bedsteds, tabills, trestells, formys, stolys, cupboards, presses, locks, keys, bolts, cheyres, and chares, except Flanders

chayres covered with red lether, being and standing in the Place at London and in my manors aforesaid, shall there stand still and remain fully, freely and hooly, to my said successor and to his use, that he shall not find the howses bayre of such things when he shall come into them, as I found them bayre at my coming to the same." Proved May 22, 1522.

We come now to his nephew, Sir John Fitzjames, Chief Justice of the King's Bench, who died 1542. I do not enter into his legal history, as that is fully given in Foss's *Lives of the Judges*. He was the chief founder of the Bruton Grammar School. He was the son of the first John Fitzjames of Redlynch. He married as his second wife, by whom he had no issue, Elizabeth Coningsby, widow of Sir Richard Berkeley, of Stoke Gifford, near Bristol. She died four years after her husband. There is nothing specially to remark on in her Will : her legacies are chiefly to members of the Berkeley family. She wishes to be buried near her husband at Brewton. There is something rather touching in the devout words with which the Chief Justice commences his Will. Oct. 23, 30 Henry VIII. "I desire the good Lord, my Redeemer and Maker, that by the mediacion of the most blessed Mother, the Virgin Marie, of St. Anthony, St. Christopher, with all the Hollye Companye of Hevyn, that *in manus tuas Domine commendo spiritum meum* may be the beginning and ending of this my present testament and last will." His funeral must have been an imposing one, if all his directions were carried out. He wishes to be buried "in the Church of Brewton, or elsewhere as shall be thought convenient by my Ex<sup>ts</sup>. 15 masses of the 5 wounds of our Lord, by 15 most honest and best disposed Priests, that for so short a time may be gotten, 2s. to each for their labour and pains. 12 poor men shall kneale about my Herse every day at the time of the Dirige and Masses, every of them to have a torch in their hands, and there to pray for my soul and all Christian souls, and to have a blake gowne, and every day 4d. in money, until the said moneth be passed. 6s. 8d. to be given to every Parish Church through

which Parish my Body shall be carried towards my burying, and if it rest in the Church one night, 20s." Then "to my wife, Plate of the value of £100, such as she will choose for herself, also the best beds of down at Redlinch, and two pairs of sheets, &c., and jewels and oxen and all my sheep at Smalden &c." Certain pieces of plate "to the person who shall have Redlinch." He speaks of "his cousins Nicholas and Aldred Fitzjames;" bequeaths 40s. to the Fraternities of our Lady in the Parish Church of Brewton. To my cosin Nicholas Fitzjames, my "Great Boke of Statutes," to remain as an implement in the House of Redlinch. To every of the Charter Houses of Witham and Hinton, £3 6s. 8d. to pray for me. To Sir John Horsey, my 2 dozen *trangers* of sylver & parcell gilte, that cost me beyond £40, & my shaving bason of sylver. To Gyles Penye, the cupp that was used to drink claret wyne in; and many other bequests. The Will was proved May 12, 1542.

John Fitzjames, his eldest son, died 1534, before his father, without issue. His wife, who was Elizabeth Baskett, leaves an interesting Will, dated Sept. 1, 1550, desiring to be buried in the Church of St. John Baptist, Brewham, and bequeaths "8d. to every householder of the Parishes of Combe and Horsington, so that they take paynes to goo with my corpus to see yt buried, and the same sum to every lame and blind person in the said parishes. To my cousin Aldred Fitzjames, a sperver of a trussing bedd of yellow and tawny sarcenet and curtayns of the same, and my third gette ale cup & my best damask draper clothe." She adds, "Proclamation to be made in the Towns of Bruton & Sherbourn that persons are to come forward and prove their debts. Half of my residue to be bestowed on mending highways, and on prisoners, and to the marriage of the poor." Proved Feb. 6, 1549-50.

I must not omit a curious Will of George George, gent., of Westoke in Batcombe, Somerset, Aug. 4, 1539. In it he says, among other things "Item, where Elisabeth Ffyzthjames doath owe unto me fowre pounds sterling, delyvered by way of lone to



Maister John Ffizthjames her late Husbonde, in the Chamber of the Halle in William North's House at Bruton, in the presens of John Saly, his own servant, and as yet ys belonginge unto her Mysteriship, of the which £4, for the great goodness that I found in his Maistershipp (Jesu pardone the soule) and in her also, I am content to remyte and forgive the one half, so that she be required to paie the other half, and do not delaye to paie yt."

I think Sir John Fitzjames had another son, James Fitzjames, who was a priest, Chancellor of Wells, Prebendary of St. Paul's, Rector of St. Clement Dane, and Rector of North Cadbury. He died 1541. Sir John had also two married daughters—Christian, wife of Robt. Moreton, and Joan, who married, first, John Marshall of Ivythorne, and secondly, Sir James Perceval of Weston-in-Gordano; but the Redlynch estates passed to Nicholas Fitzjames, first cousin of the Judge, who died March 10, 1550. All that I find recorded of him is that he, along with "John Sydenham and Thomas Horner was diligent to serve the King in the Suppression of the Monasteries." He was also High Sheriff for Somerset, 1545.

The eldest son and heir of Nicholas Fitzjames was Robert, who married Joane Arundell, who was buried in Bruton Church, Feb. 25, 1563. They had only one daughter, so the Redlynch estates went to the second son, Sir James Fitzjames, who was knighted 1553, "the morrow after Queen Mary's Coronation." He married at St. Martin's, Ludgate Hill, London, Dec. 9, 1574, Jane, daughter of Sir John Newton, Kt., of East Harptree, Somerset, and widow of Hugh Cartwright of Kent, by whom he had no children. He made his Will, Aug. 25, 1579, and directs, that during the widowhood of his wife, "she shall have the use and occupacion of all the brasse and pewter vessell in my house at Redlinch, and of all the furniture of the guilte chamber there, the utter tower chamber, the chamber over the parlour, the Stourton chamber, my Lady Barkeley's chamber, and the chamber over the buttery, and of the three new Testers



of imbroderings that were last made." He was High Sheriff for Somerset and Dorset in 1560. He was mixed up in the matter of the murder of the Hartgills by Lord Stourton in 1557, and is often mentioned in the interesting account of that sad tragedy given by Canon Jackson in the 8th volume of the *Wilts Magazine*.

His widow, Lady Jane Fitzjames, made her Will in 1594 ; it was proved Feb. 12, 1595-6. She desires to be buried in the Church of Town Malling, Kent, by my Brother and Sister Ellyot, "with somme little copper upon it."

Her sister, Ellynor Elliot, who was also a Newton, made her Will in 1588, and makes "my Right Worshipfull, my Lady and Sister, Lady Dame Jane Fitzjames, executrix, and for her pains I doe give, as a declaration and for a remembrance of systerly love and affection towards her, a fine *tike* of a feather bedd."

We now come to Richard Fitzjames of Redlinch, the younger brother and heir of Sir James, who married Mary, daughter of Sir William Francis, Kt., of Combe Florey, Somerset. He was buried in Bruton Church, Nov. 12, 1595. His widow was also buried there, March 14, 1607 ; and administration of his effects was granted to his son, John Fitzjames, July 3, 1598.

His son, John Fitzjames, married Joane, daughter of Sir John Younge, Kt., of Bristol.

His daughter, Mary, married George Prater, Esq., of Nunney Castle.

His son, James, I cannot follow out.

It is evident that all the family were much mixed up in the Popish plots in the latter days of Queen Elizabeth. References to them are frequent in the *State Papers* :— "Sept. 4, 1591. Thomas Kelway of Rockbourne, writes to Lord Burghly certain information concerning John Fitzjames, touched, as he hears, with concealment of Babington treason." "Dec. 31, 1597. Elliot persuaded Fitzjames and Prater, both of Somerset, to join the King (of Spain)." "Sept., 1598. There are English soldiers who are enemies to our Queen's religion and State—

Prater and Fitzjames, Gentlemen of Somerset—who came over with Elliott, and have 20 ducats a month. Also John Fitzjames of Redlynch, came aboard, and said ‘his Brother James would go with Ellyot.’” “July 6, 1606. Fitzjames said, ‘There may come a puffe which may send some highe enoughe, and lowe enoughe to hell, ere long.’”

Many other suspicious acts and sayings are recorded in the *State Papers*, relative to these Fitzjames. What eventually became of them, I cannot trace out. All that I know about the Manor of Redlynch is, that it passed to the family of the Gorges.

In 1632 Sir Robert Gorges, Kt., settled the capital messuage, parks, &c., of Redlinch and Stoke Holloway, Somerset, on his son, Thomas Gorges, on his marriage with Margaret Poyntz.

Thomas Poyntz died 1638, *s.p.* The Lady Mary Gorges, widow of Sir Robert, was buried in Bruton Church, Jan. 31, 1648.

Some of the Fitzjames are afterwards found at Charlton Mackrel, and some in London; but I have not been able to discover a single lineal male descendant, at the present day, of the Fitzjames family.

We come, lastly, to Aldred Fitzjames, the ancestor of the Dorsetshire family. He was brother of Nicholas Fitzjames, and held lands in various parts of Somerset. His Will was proved Feb. 13, 1554-5. He left four children. His wife was Joan Culpepper of Kent. She married, secondly, John Leweston, of Leweston, Dorset, who died 1584, but left his estates in Dorset to his stepson, Sir John Fitzjames, the eldest son of Aldred Fitzjames. Leweston thus became the seat of the family.

Sir John Fitzjames married Joan Trenchard, sister of Sir George Trenchard, and died May 16, 1625, aged 77. The Manor of Long Burton, Dorset, was granted to him by Sir Walter Raleigh, 36th Elizabeth. His eldest son, Leweston Fitzjames, was M.P. for Bridport, 39th Elizabeth. He married Eleanor, daughter of Sir Henry Winston of Standish, Gloucestershire. They had several children. In his Will, June 30, 1636, he desires to be

“buried in chancel of Long Burton,” and adds “to my ever loving and chaste wife, my apparell, jewels, &c., except her wedding ring, which, having formerly been transmitted to me by myn ancestors, I desire may be left to my eldest son or daughter as shall be unmarried at my death, when it shall please God to send this my present wife a second husband, or to take her out of this world a widow. To my daughter Joan, who is not otherwise provided for, 1000 pieces, of 22 shillings a piece, which my ex<sup>rs</sup>. shall find ready pursed up, with a label, and her name written thereon. My younger children I have provided for by way of conveyance.” Proved May 16, 1638.

His widow, Eleanor, did not marry again, but died 1650. She leaves in her Will many legacies :—“To my daughter Joane, my roape of perles; to my daughter Dionis, my transparent diamond; to my daughter Sarah, other jewels, and ‘£50 in shipp angels.’ ” Proved Aug. 29, 1650.

Their son, Sir John Fitzjames, took the Royalist side in the Civil Wars, and his estates, valued in 1641 at £120 per annum, were sequestrated. He was knighted at the Restoration, in 1660, and was elected three times M.P. for Poole, Dorset. He married Margaret, daughter of Nathaniel Stephens, Esq., of Eastington, Gloucestershire, who died 1685, aged 71. He died 1670. His Will was proved Sept. 19, 1670. He had a brother, Sir Henry Fitzjames, who died 1686, without issue, having married Jane Stint, he being her fourth husband.

Sir John was the last male heir of the Dorset estates. His eldest son, John, having predeceased him, was buried in the Temple Church, London, Dec. 19, 1669.

There were other children, but all the estates became eventually vested in his daughter Grace Fitzjames, who married Sir George Strode, Kt., Serjt. at Law, whose Will was proved April 18, 1702. They lived at Leweston, and had one daughter and heiress, Grace Strode, who married Henry Thynne, Esq. It was at Leweston, while Mr. and Mrs. Thynne lived there, that Bishop Ken was on a visit, March, 1711, when he was seized with his

fatal illness. He had just strength enough to move to Longleat, where he expired. Henry Thynne had by Grace Strode one daughter, Frances, who married the Earl of Hertford, the father of a Duchess of Northumberland; and thus the Leweston estates came to the Percy family.

In the 3rd Report of the Historical MSS. Commission it is mentioned that, in the library of the present Duke of Northumberland are several books, MSS., and letters, of the Fitzjames family; but I forbear quoting from these, as my paper has already proved too long, I fear, for your patient but kind attention.

---

## The King's March through Somerset, 1644.

BY EMANUEL GREEN.

IN August, 1642, William Seymour, Marquis of Hertford, was sent into Somerset to raise and command all forces gathered there for the King. He found himself, however, forestalled by the opposition party, working for the Parliament, and after some encounters about Wells, was driven away to Sherborne. On behalf of the Parliament, the High Sheriff, Sandford, with his son and other gentlemen, then made a general search and disarmed many of the Royalist houses, sending to Taunton the arms and armour thus secured. Early in September, Captain Pym, son to "that worthy patriot John Pym, Esq.," having intelligence that Sir Edward Rodney, Sir Edward Berkley, and one "Master" Dugdale, chaplain to the Marquis of Hertford, were at Sir Ralph Hopton's house at Witham, and were seducing the tenants and fortifying the place, proceeded there and assaulted it. They within, however, proved to be determined in their defence, and shot for shot was returned. Presently, Arnold Hayward, or Howard, the lieutenant of the company, espied at a distance three horsemen mounted. On riding up to them he found them to be the two knights and the chaplain, and bid them yield ; but they, seeing that he was alone, "answered disdainfully." After some further parley, one of them, unobserved, drew a pistol and aimed it at the lieutenant, but the "fire took not." Howard, in return, gave them "a token" from his carbine, but had the "lucke to miss;" then "they at him, and he at both of them," the chaplain standing by neuter. So was carried on this close, but curious encounter, until eventually, for no reason given, the knights, although acknowledged to be gentlemen of courage, asked for quarter and surrendered themselves prisoners.

In the meantime the soldiers had made a breach into the



house through a small postern door, which caused the inmates to surrender on quarter, but with the loss of all arms and ammunition. The lieutenant, not a little proud of his share in this business, took his prisoners to the Parliament, where, having "welcome love and encouragement" to follow his future fortune in its defence, he delivered his captives and returned to his duty.<sup>1</sup> That there should be no doubt or mistake as to the part he had played, an account of the affair, duly signed and authenticated by the three prisoners, was printed in pamphlet form. But notwithstanding this good beginning and "loving encouragement," Howard afterwards deserted to the King, and being taken prisoner at Barnstaple, in July, 1644, was tried and executed.<sup>2</sup>

After this, Witham House was again garrisoned, and on the 10th February, 1643, the Parliament issued an Order that it should be disarmed, and that all persons found therein, "standing on their guard," should be sent prisoners to London.

Up to July, 1643, all went fairly well with the Parliament, but from that time and through 1644 the Royalists held possession of Somerset. The Earl of Essex being then sent from London with a force to relieve the West, was joyfully received in the county; the King's party avoiding contact. Those who joined the Earl, were "welcomed" by him, and Lord Roberts made them an excellent speech, which was received with loud shouts of assent.

But the hopes raised by the coming of Lord Essex were checked by the determination of the King to follow personally westward. To meet him with as many men as possible, Sir Ralph, now Lord Hopton, recruited energetically, especially about his own district, between Evercreech and Witham. His house at the latter place he strengthened, and placed about it some five hundred horse. Altogether two thousand were thus gathered, being told they were to resist an expected landing of some French. On finding that this was not true, most of them deserted, and, following their own inclinations, joined the other side.<sup>3</sup>

(1). Certain and true newes from Somersetshire.

(2). Oldmixon.

(3). God's Ark, &c.

Marching slowly, that the necessary preparations might be made, the King, accompanied by Prince Charles, left Badminton on Monday, the 15th July, passed through Marshfield, and so over Lansdown to Bath, where he was received by Lord Hopton, and Sir Thomas Bridges, the governor of the city. He had with him, including Hopton's contingent, about nine thousand men, horse and foot, intending to march for Devon, there to get Lord Essex between himself and Prince Maurice, and so crush him before any aid could come, or before any force could advance near enough to hinder his plan.

Sir William Waller at this time was about Warwick. It was known that if he advanced too suddenly to support or succour Essex he was likely to come weak, and if he stayed to join with others he must come too late.<sup>4</sup>

After resting two nights at Bath, his Majesty went on Wednesday, the 17th July, to Sir John Horner's house at Mells, "a faire large house built of stone, in the forme of an H, with two courts,"<sup>5</sup> his troop being quartered at Kilmersdon. Sir John Horner's estate was under sequestration, and curiously enough, it happened that he was appointed Parliamentary High Sheriff of the County on the 15th July, being the day on which the King arrived in Bath, and only two days before he took possession of the house at Mells. On the march to Mells the soldiers searched every place for horses, taking sometimes twenty or thirty, but they were "hard put to it" for bridles and saddles. The foot were apparently in a bad state, and so poorly shod, that they even took the shoes from the feet of those who were their friends. To help them, if possible, the King sent a letter, on the 18th, to the Mayor of Wells, demanding a supply of boots and shoes, and asking also for a loan of £500, which he promised to repay "when God enabled him to do so." The citizens being greatly reduced were unable to raise more than one hundred pounds, and this, with two hundred pairs of shoes, they sent as a "free gift."

About the time of the King's arrival in Bath, Sir Francis

(4). Rupert Correspondence.

(5). Symond's Diary.

Doddington had been sent, to take a house of Mr. Arundel's, called Wodehouse, near Frome, and about two miles from Witham, in which the Pophams and Colonel Strode had placed a garrison of sixty-six men, under the command of one Wansey, who had been formerly a watchmaker in Warminster. In this house were many gentlemen who had sought therein safety and protection. Sir Francis found his task more difficult than he had anticipated, and consequently the King sent to him from Bath an additional party of horse and foot, with two pieces of ordnance. The garrison then seeing that longer resistance must be useless, yielded, upon quarter, on the 16th July. After the surrender, this agreement was most shamefully broken. The victors "abused both men, women, and children, most inhumanely ;" and Sir Francis, treating his captives as rebels, hanged fourteen, all of good estate, clothiers of the neighbourhood, some of them said to be worth at least ten thousand pounds. Eighty others he sent off prisoners to Bristol, and then joined the King at Mells.<sup>6</sup> This affair told much against his majesty, as he was so near, and somewhat personally concerned in it. In the Parliament it caused a great sensation, and immediate action was taken to proclaim martial law against all in arms on the Royalist side.

On the 18th, Prince Charles dined with Lord Hopton, at Witham. On Friday, the 19th, all left Mells, the general rendezvous being at Nunney. Then, marching to Bruton, his Majesty quartered at the Abbey, "a faire and noble habitation" of his loyal servant, Sir Charles Berkley. Here he stayed two nights, his troop quartering at Lamyat, in a "pretty stone house, neare the church," the seat of a Royalist Captain, named Davies.

Up to this time no support had appeared, nor had any curiosity been shown to see so rare a visitor. At Bruton, for the first time, the country people came to look at him, but some art had to be used to get them to do even this. They were called in with spades and shovels, as if for some work suited to those tools, and when assembled, an attempt was made to compel them

(6). A Diary, &c., No. 10. Walker, Sir Edward. Perfect Diurnal, No. 52.

to change these for weapons of war. This manœuvre proved a failure, as some three hundred so treated, at once left, and went to Taunton.<sup>7</sup>

On Saturday, the 20th, the rendezvous was on the hill, "Queen Camel being on the left hand," and the King went on to Ilchester, where he lay at the house of Mr. Dawes, his troop quartering at Chilton, about two miles off. Here he stayed three days, waiting for recruits, and hoping to increase his force from an assembly of the county, summoned by his sheriff, Sir Thomas Bridges, to meet on King's Moor, on Tuesday, the 23rd. Accordingly, on that day, a "mighty confluence of people came flocking from all parts of Somerset, and there saluted the King with shouts and acclamations, and followed him from place to place."<sup>8</sup> Anticipating from this demonstration that their wishes would be fully realised, and that a great increase of strength would result, Sir John Stowell, Sir Edward Rodney, Sir Edward Berkley, and Colonel Biss, were appointed colonels, to organise and command the new regiments. The men from the eastern division of the county were to be placed under Sir Edward Rodney, and those from the western division under Sir John Stowell. But, notwithstanding their efforts, no recruits were forthcoming, and it was soon clear that all the apparent admiration was curiosity, and not affection, no King having been seen in those parts for many years. His Majesty then caused a speech, as if from himself, to be read, first in his own presence, and then in other parts of the ground. In this he said how often he had desired to come into the West, but the "malicious authors" of the war had made it impossible. He was now come to relieve them from the violence of a rebellious army, which would bring destruction on Religion, Property, and Liberty. These, on the contrary, he would defend, and all he asked was, that they would heartily join with him, bear arms in the cause, and so be the means of restoring peace—a blessed peace, which he had so often sought for. He promised that his soldiers should not be more burdensome

(7). Parliament Scout, No. 57.

(8). Walker, Sir Edward.



than was necessary ; but the best way to avoid disorders from them was to "take order that they be not provoked by want of provisions." He concluded by pointing to his son, "your fellow-soldier in this expedition," to whom he delegated the carrying out of his promises, if he himself "lived not to do so."

This speech made no impression, and when the newly appointed colonels came to the question, and asked the people whether they would join and serve the King, but "few stood to it." When all who could be gathered were drawn into a body, there were not more than a thousand. With these were included some who had enlisted before the meeting, under Sir Edward Berkley and Colonel Biss, and also about two hundred others, who had come with Sir Edward Rodney. The rest, having seen their sight, went home again.

On Wednesday, the 24th, having the night before received an addition of eight hundred men from Bristol, the army marched to Chard, "a pretty fair Town," and here the King stayed at the house of Mr. Bancroft, a merchant of London, his troop going to Sir Robert Brett's, "a fair old stone house," at White Stanton. The next day he left Chard, for Honiton, and so passed out of the county.

Meanwhile the efforts of the Parliament were continued to strengthen their force in the West, and some skirmishes now occurred in Somerset. Witham House was again besieged. Early in September Colonel Ludlow, hearing of its being garrisoned, marched there, and took from the park a hundred head of cattle. Soon the garrison offered to treat, and then surrendered, on conditions that all should return to their homes, that the arms should be delivered up, and that no garrison should be kept there in future.

The King's army intervening, but little or no news came from the Earl of Essex, in Devon, as his messengers were usually taken prisoners on their way. Consequently, General Middleton, commanding in Somerset, drew together his forces. Horsemen



were accumulated to cut off supplies in the Royalist rear, and all horses ordered to be brought into Ilchester. Saddles and bridles were received from London; a regiment arrived through Weymouth, other men from Lyme, and Colonel Massey came from Gloucester. The Earl of Manchester and Sir William Waller also marched westward, and joined General Middleton on the 10th September, between Taunton and Bridgwater.

The King, having determined to return to Oxford for the winter, left Exeter, and arrived at Chard on Monday, September 23rd, with ten thousand horse and foot, and seventeen pieces of artillery. He stayed, as before, at Mr. Bancroft's house, his troop being quartered, first at Knoll, then at South Petherton; the army generally being distributed to Crewkerne, Yeovil, and the country round. His Majesty was delayed at Chard a whole week, on account of the failure of his Somerset Commissioners to provide him with promised contributions of money and clothing. He left on the 30th, and, keeping the high road, dined at Lord Paulet's, at Hinton St. George, being joined there by Prince Rupert and Lord Digby, from Bridgwater. Then, leaving Crewkerne two miles to the left, he quartered for the night at Mr. Gibbs', the Manor House, South Perrot, and so passed on to Sherborne.

During the delay at Chard, the Parliamentary forces had continued to concentrate. Sir Thomas Wroth had set out from London with a complete regiment, and from the same centre, men, money, and provisions, were sent off daily. Colonel Cromwell had reached Salisbury, and Lord Essex wrote that he would soon join Sir William Waller, who was now at Shaftesbury. As the King advanced, Sir William retired, and the Royalists continued their march to Newbury, where they were brought to an encounter, with such a disastrous result, that the King, leaving his men to shift for themselves, fled to Bath in the night, a distance of fifty miles; and thence, under the protection of Prince Rupert's horse, got safely to Oxford.

## On some Somerset Chap-Books.

---

BY EMANUEL GREEN.

---

THE following list of little pamphlets, or chap-books, is selected as having a purely local interest. They were not printed for Somerset people only, but are specimens of a class of literature which formed, it must be remembered, at the time of issue, the chief, or perhaps the sole, reading, available to our ancestors in rural places. They were carried through the country by chap-men, or pedlars, themselves then almost the only means of communication with distant parts, and by them were either sold, or exchanged for some of the many things those parties are always ready to take. Some of them bear on the title "Price one penny, or exchanged for linen rags." One, printed at Norwich, was curiously marked, "Price one penny, but a halfpenny not refused." By the Germans they are expressively called Folks-books. Although extremely simple to us now, when studied collectively they teach some lessons, and aid in working out the social condition of the people of their time.

The first to be noticed is a very early and very curious one. It is entitled—and the title of these things is by no means the worst part of them,—

A True and most Dreadfull discourse of a woman possessed with the Deuill, who, in the likenesse of a headlesse Beare fetched her out of her Bedd, and in the presence of seven persons, most straungely roulded her thro three chambers and downe a high paire of staiers, on the fower and twentie of May last, 1584. At Dichet in Sommersetshire. A matter as miraculous as euer was seen in our time. (Wood block of the headless bear.) 4to, 1584.

This tells, that upon the ninth day of May, 1584, there was a yeoman of honest reputation dwelling at Dichet, three miles from Bruton, the "most auncient Towne within Somersetshire," who, being sick, had sent his wife into Gloucestershire to see to a farm which he had there, where she "staied one daie and some-

thing more." On her return she found her husband somewhat recovered, but for herself the visit seems to have produced a bad effect, as she began "to use very much idle talke," both about the farm, as well as "concerning an old groate which her sonne, a little boy, had found about one weeke before." She thus continued until Tuesday, at night, when towards the morning she began again with "much vaine speech to disquiet her husbände." He, seeing her in such a troubled state, persuaded her to pray with him; but the "deuill, who alwaie doth builde his chappell so neare as hee maie to vexe God's Church," began to "put her in minde" to call "in most fearfull sorte," for the old groate, as also for her wedding ring. The husband, taking no notice of this, continued to pray that her spirit might be quieted; but the more he prayed, the louder she called; and he continuing to neglect her cries, she began to look on him "with a sterne and staring countenance." This so frightened him that he called for her sister and others, and these held her down, whilst she, struggling and foaming at the mouth, shook the bed and the chamber "in most straunge sorte." Recovering from this, she said she had been "to beat awaie a Beare, which to her thinking had no hed." After being fairly quiet for a week, on the Sunday, about midnight, it happened that the candle burned out, when suddenly she called to her husband that she saw "a strange thing like a snail, carrying fire in most wonderful sort." He then called in "his brother and her sister," who brought a candle, when the wife "waxed very fearfull," crying loudly, "Don't you see the Deuill." She was again desired to pray, that her faith might vanquish that troublesome party, but she only replied, "Well, if you see nothing now, you shall see something by and by." And so it happened that soon they saw a thing come to the bed "much like unto a Beare, but it had no head nor no taile." The husband seeing it, took a stool and struck it; but the blow sounded as if it were upon a feather bed. Then the apparition went to the wife, took her out of bed, "thrust her hed betwixt her legges, and so rould

her in a rounde compasse, like an hoope, through three other chambers, and downe an high paire of staires into the hall," where he kept her a quarter of an hour. Whilst she was thus below, the husband and the others "durst not come down." There was, too, such a horrible stink in the hall, and such "fierie flames," they were glad to stop their noses with cloths. Suddenly the woman cried, "Now he is gone," and came upstairs again. She was put to bed, but it was noticed that the candle burned so very dimly that the room was nearly in darkness. In this obscurity, without warning, the window mysteriously opened, the woman jumped from her bed, and her "legges, after a marveilous maner," were thrust out and clasped about the post dividing the window, then her feet were knocked "as it had been upon a Tubbe," and all saw a great fire, the "stinke whereof was horrible." After this the candle burned brightly, and the woman cried for forgiveness of all her sins, &c.

Many learned men went to see the case, amongst them being "Maister" Doctor Cottington, parson of Ditchett, and "Maister" Nicholles, preacher of Bruton, with others, chiefly preachers from the places near. The conclusion declares that the story is not a "fained fable," but a warning against all wickedness. As with most of these little things, there is a moral attached, that intended here being that, the "beloved and curious" reader should remember how ready Satan is to take hold of us.

These assurances of verity cannot now be questioned; but it happens that this same story was reprinted in 1614, with some omissions to make the relation appear recent. The title also differs, being now—

A Miracle of Miracles, as fearfull as euer was seene or heard of in the Memorie of Man, which lately happened at Dichet in Sommersetshire, and sent by diuers credible witnesses to be published in London. (Woodcut of the woman in bed, the headless bear appearing.) 4to, 1614.

This consists of five leaves, including the title, and is the same as that of 1584, the date, and names of the parson and preacher being omitted. There are, however, seven witnesses, that "it

is most true." This habit of attaching many names as witnesses is curious, and well noticed in the *Winter's Tale*. "I love a ballad in print," says Mopsa; "Is it true, think you?" "The ballad is very pitiful and true," is the pedlar's answer; "Five justices' hands to it, and witnesses, more than my pack will hold."

Next is a story which has the appearance of truth, and which evidently circulated well :

A true report of certaine wonderfull ouerflowings of Waters, now lately in Summerset-shire, Norfolke, and other places in England; destroying many thousands of men, women, and children; ouerthrowing and beating downe whole townes and villages, and drowning infinite numbers of sheepe and other cattle. (Black letter.) 4to, 1607. Woodcut frontispiece, representing the flood, cattle swimming, &c.

Another account runs—

More strange newes of wonderfull accidents hapning by the late ouerflowings of Waters in Summersetshire, Gloucestershire, Norfolke, and other places in England: with a true Relation of the Townes' names that are lost, and the number of persons drowned, with other reports of accidents that were not before discovered, happening about Bristow and Barstable. Frontispiece, representing the flood, and labelled—Behold the miserable estate of these poor drowned creatures. (Black letter.) 4to, 1607.

A third, of the same size and date, is—

God's Warning to his people of England. Wherein is related His most VVonderfull and Miraculous Works, by the late ouerflowing of the Waters in the Countreyes of Sommerset and Glovcester, the Counties of Mynmoth, Glamorgan, Carmarthen, and Cardigan, with diuers other places in South Wales. Wherein is described the great losses, and Wonderfull damages, that hapned thereby, by the drowning of many Townes and Villages, to the Vtter Vndooing of many thousandes of People. (Black letter.) 4to, 1607.

From these accounts it is learned that, by the breaking of the bank at Burnham, some thirty villages were utterly overflowed, and their cattle destroyed, besides men, "wemen," and children. Suddenly, without notice, the country, for twenty miles by five, was flooded to the depth of eleven or twelve feet; the deepest part being at Kingston Seymore. At Huntspill twenty-eight were drowned, the place being quite covered, as also was a great part of Barrow, Marke, Limpsham, South Brent, East Brent, and Vole. Brean was "swallowed up." Of nine houses there,



seven were destroyed, and with them twenty-six persons lost their lives. It was the same with Alstone Marris, Yatton, and the hamlet of Puxtone. Of Combsbury, a great part was "hidden in the sea." Besides these, Worle, Cewstocke, Banwell, Wieck, Clyvedon, Portshed, Portbury, Weston-super-Mare, Saint Georges and Stauenge, all suffered. At Uphill eleven were drowned. Ken was "almost out of Kenning." In this parish stood a "fair large building," belonging to the Lady Straunge, into which all were invited to shelter. The horses stood in the hall, above their middle in water. It happened to one, "a man of good estate, but no gentleman, his name John Good of Breane," to have five children and his wife all cast away, and all his servants, nine or ten in number. In Berrow, a maid coming from milking was "round about beset," and climbing up a bank, remained there twenty-four hours; the rats, mice, and "wants" being in swarms about her to save their lives. All this blew profit to some, as seafaring men came in boats, and went richly laden away. Others, "sheep byters," killed the sheep for their tallow only, leaving the carcasses. The oxen, as they swam about, looked like whales, and the noise they made was like a tempest. Conies sought safety on the backs of the sheep, but at last were drowned with them. As soon as possible, five hundred men, at twelvecence a day, were put to work at Burnham, and the whole district began to repair damages, the justices helping, not with their eyes only, but also with their hands.

Next comes a good and interesting specimen—

The Charitable Farmer of Somersetshire: or, God's Great and Wonderful Work. Being a True Relation of an Honest Godly Man, that lived at Welling, within three miles of the City of Wells, which sold his Wheat to poor people at Six Shillings a Bushel, when the market price was Ten and Eleven Shillings, for which he was much derided and scoft at by his Rich Neighbours; but was recompenced by an extraordinary Crop of Wheat, the like never before heard of, each Stolk of Straw having divers full large Ears, some Seven, some Eight, Nine, and Ten, so to Thirteen; but generally Ten ears on every Straw throughout the Field, which was Ten Acres and upwards, of which divers Ears are to be seen at divers

Coffee houses in the City of London. Likewise a pattern for all Covetous Greedy-minded men to be Charitable unto their poor Neighbours, from the consideration of so Remarkable an Example. 4to, 1674.

Here it is told that in 1673 there was a great scarcity of corn. The poor were obliged to make bread of peas and beans ; but this was so hard, a hatchet was necessary to chop it to pieces. In their great distress and trial they went into the markets, cut to pieces the sacks of the farmers, and filled their own pockets with the grain. It was this great privation and misery which prompted the action of the Somerset farmer, and produced to him such a bountiful return. Some of the ears of his crop were shown in the coffee houses, as many “be more like Jews than Christians, and will believe only what their eyes do see.”

This was also published as a single sheet ballad, consisting of twenty verses, black letter. The title is then—

God's Great and Wonderful Work in Somerset-shire, the charitable Farmer miraculously rewarded. Happening at Welling, within three miles of the City of Wells this last Harvest, where an Honest Godly Farmer, having sold most part of this last Summer and Winter great quantities of Corn to the poor in their distress at five or six shillings the Bushel, when the Market price was ten and eleven shillings ; for which he was much derided and scoft at by his Rich Neighbours, he was recompensed by an extraordinary crop of Wheat, the like was never before heard of ; each stalk of straw having divers full large ears, some nine, ten, and thirteen, but generally ten ears on every straw throughout the field, which was ten Acres and upwards ; of which ears are to be seen at divers Coffee houses by the Royal Exchange, and at other places in London, Published as a grateful acknowledgment of the goodness of Providence, and to stir up all into Faith in God, and charity towards their poor Neighbours from the consideration of so Remarkable an example. The tune is, *Aim not too High*. (Woodcut, showing the field.)

One-fourth of the sheet is occupied by the woodcut and one-fourth by the title, the lower half being the ballad ; which tells us that—

In Somersetshire an honest man do dwell,  
Who always loved poor people very well ;  
When some beguile widow and fatherless,  
This man relieved many in distress.

For this same man had such a crop of wheat  
 The like no mortal man before did reap ;  
 Nine, ten, eleven, and thirteen ears it yield  
 On every stalk or straw throughout the field.

Hundreds of people round about there came  
 To see this wonder that heard of its Fame ;  
 Both old and young, both rich and poor doth cry,  
 The like was never seen with mortal eye.

So to conclude of this here I have pen'd,  
 Hoping the truth does no body offend ;  
 But keep in mind still what to you I say,  
 The king and beggar both are lumps of clay.

In 1674, too, apparently by the same author, and evidently intended to create a wide interest, came out—

Strange and True News from Lincolnshire, Huntingdon-shire, Bedford-shire, Northampton-shire, Suffolk, and Norfolk, with Wiltshire, and Summersetshire, and many other places. Being a true Relation of the Great and many Floods and Inundations that happened in England in December, and January, and March, 1674. The Smothering of People in Snow, the Drowning of many Cattel, the beating down of Bridges and Houses, the washing up of Corn by the Roots, and drowning of many People. To the Great Loss and Grief of many Hundreds in this Nation. Also an account of many great Waters, that happened in the Reigns of Henry the 3rd, Edward the 2nd, Henry the 4th, Henry the 6th, Richard the 3rd, Henry 7th, Henry the 8th, Queen Mary ; and the unmercifull Waters that fell in King James's Reign : as the Book within doth largely make mention. 4to, 1674.

So far as this concerns Somerset, it is simply a revival of the flood stories of 1607.

Monstrous births form a frequent subject for these issues. In 1576 there was printed—

The Description of a Monstrous Female Childe borne at Taunton, 8 Novemb, 1576.

This was licensed to Hugh Jackson in the year named, and is thus the earliest known of these things relating to Somerset. Another, very similar, appeared in 1681—

A True Relation of a monstrous Female Child, born at Ile Brewers, near Taunton Dean in Somersetshire.

Notwithstanding the similarity of title, this was not the same. It was simply a double birth, joined at the breast, and was a fact, as it is noticed in the *Philosophical Transactions* of that date.

Next in order of time comes—

Strange and Wonderful News from Exeter: giving an account of the Dreadful Apparitions that was seen by Mr. Jacob Seley on Monday, September the 22th, 1690, who gave the full account to the Judges the next day, who were going the Western Circuit.

The traveller, going to Taunton, stopped at an inn and called for a pot of beer and a noggin of brandy. Proceeding on his way he met a country-like farmer, whom he was persuaded to accompany three miles, on the promise of good lodging. Presently the farmer and his horse vanished away, and immediately there appeared a hundred or two—men, women, and children; “some like judges, some like magistrates, some like clergymen, and some like country people.” The last made at the stranger with spears, upon which he adjured them in the name of the Trinity. Of this they took no notice, but covered him with a net. Then he alighted off his horse, and when he let go the bridle the horse disappeared, and he never saw him more. In this plight he waited till four in the morning, and, being constantly attacked, thrust at his assailants with his sword, finding nothing but shadow, though he presently perceived a “man was cut, and his four fingers hung by the skin, and a woman was cut in the forehead, leaving blood upon the sword.” After this came along ten funerals, one after the other; then two bodies were dragged along, both apparently just slain. In the morning the traveller got away, and happening to meet the Judges on their way to Wells, he gave them an account of his adventure.

If anyone wished to be satisfied of the truth of this story, he was to go to Mr. William Brown, next door to the Windsor Castle, Charing Cross.

Omitting to notice the consumption of beer and brandy, the narrator suddenly remembers, “’tis remarkable” that on the sign post of the inn one of Monmouth’s men was hanged, and that about there several were buried who had been either killed or executed.

This class of publication seems to have increased towards the year 1700. At that time we have—



Dreadful News from Taunton Dean. God's Judgments against Jealous Persons : being the whole account of the most Horrid Murder, committed by Sir William Watts, who most cruelly murdered his Lady and two small children ; for which he was tried and cast at the last Assizes, and executed for the same. With the solemn declaration he made at the Place of Execution, and the substance of a Sermon preached by the Rev. Dr. Russell. 8vo, 1700. Reprinted, 12mo, 1815.

In the parish of Milverton lived Sir William Watts, of good estate, about twenty-eight years of age, who, having married a lady of the neighbourhood, lived happily with her and their three children, until "the devil raised such a spirit of jealousy in him that he could not rest, day nor night." His love thus turned to hatred. As he was walking in the fields, meditating how he could murder her, the devil appeared to him in the form of a nobleman, and asked him his trouble, adding, without apparently waiting for a reply, that he knew he thought his wife unfaithful, and her children not his, which, said he, "I know to be true," for "mine were the very same, but I went home and murdered them all." Mutual sympathy being now established, the devil assures him that he lives happily beyond seas, thus opening a prospect for his friend. Watts then goes home, murders his wife and children, and eventually is hanged at Taunton. Moral : Had he gone to hear more good sermons, and avoided jealousy, his end might have been different. This relation is "certified to be true," by Sir Henry Betterton, Sir John Farrington, Humphry Broom, Samuel Fisher, Robert Ashford, James Jeffries, and John Bentley, Esqrs.

In the same year, 1700, was also published—

A Strange and Wonderful (Yet True) Relation of the Cursed and Hellish Design of Abraham Mason, a pretended Quaker, to give himself to the Devil, with the manner how he would have done it, and how strangely he was prevented. Also an account of his behaviour afterwards, and of his strange death.

This tells that in Chard there lived one Abraham Mason, who, being unsettled in his religion, at last joined the Quakers. By trade he was a bookseller, also a confectioner, and a practitioner in physic and surgery. His wife hated his religion, and, being



jealous of him, was "a watchful woman, and would search into all his ways." She thus perplexing him, he was one day in a profound study, wishing he could have some discourse with the devil, when a gentleman entered his shop, and seeing him melancholy, enquired the reason. At first the Quaker answered little, but finding the stranger well read, he told him that he had a mind to see the devil, but knew not how to raise him, and "lay him again." The gentleman persuaded him against such a design, but finding him fully bent on it, he promised to consider the matter, and to help him if possible. On his return home he told the story to his brother, and the two planned that the Quaker should be promised all that he wished. The first of the brothers then walked with the Quaker to Hazlecombe, having sent forward a man with a puppy, to be placed in a bush of curious form there. As they approached the bush the Quaker was bid look in it, and he would see the devil in the form of a puppy. Finding this was true, he was satisfied that his companion could raise him, and agreed to a meeting three nights after, at eleven o'clock, in a stone quarry near, when it was promised he should speak with him. The brothers now got two men to assist them, one as the Devil, the other as a Friar. He for the Devil carried a great ring, having several horses' tails attached, with, on his face a hare's skin, and on his head a lanthorn. The Friar carried a staff and bell, and sprinkled gunpowder and brimstone about the pit. The Quaker being brought to the spot, after some incantation, the smoke of brimstone came up; then, after more words, came up the Friar, and demanded who wanted Beelzebub. "Return, return," said the conjuror, "and tell him it is I who would speak with him." Beelzebub appearing, the Quaker made his requests, asking for power over all women's tongues; for power to make all sick or well, as he pleased, and for the philosopher's stone. In return he promised to give himself, and also a bag which he held in his hand. The latter he was bid throw over his left shoulder, and this he did. Then he was bid pull off his left boot; but now refusing, the

gunpowder was ignited and the chains rattled. Seeing and hearing this, the Quaker bolted, and jumped a stile which at other times he could hardly scramble over. The bag was found to contain forty shillings, which were spent on a merry breakfast. The Quaker, who always refused to believe himself hoaxed, was not seen in his shop for several months. After moping thus for some time, he fell down stairs and broke his neck, so ending the life of a wicked wretch, who, having not the fear of God before his eyes, would have sold himself to the devil.

Next is one which was published both in pamphlet and ballad form—

The Somersetshire Demon; or a Wonderful but True Narrative of the Calamities lately befallen a Farmer in Somersetshire, through Witchcraft: Whose Son is bewitched, as appears by horrible Fits; His House haunted with strange Disorders; His Houses, Barns, Hay Mows, and Stables, at several times in April last burnt down, with many very strange Circumstances attending it. 1704.

Here, the son of a farmer at Wotton, near the antient town of Glastonbury, during his father's absence at church, went to rob the hen roost; but on his return to the house was surprised to find eggs already in the pot, although nobody had been near. Just then the father returned, and learning the story, ordered the eggs not to be eaten. The boy, however, in his greediness, seized one and ate it. Soon he began to vomit bits of glass, iron nails, and a pear stuck full of thorns. The next night his hair was cut off, lock by lock, neither hand nor scissors being visible; and afterwards he was pulled up the chimney. Then the house was stoned, the stones rising by themselves from the ground; some of them were hot. Next the apple trees were split, the doors refused to remain shut, something like a great bear jumped on the bacon rack, the bed cords were cut, and the reaping hooks twisted like screws. Eventually the farm was burned down, nobody knowing how the fire came.

The ballad is entitled—

The Somersetshire Wonder, or late dreadful Judgements which hapened upon the Family of Mr. Pope of Wotton, near Glastenbury, in the said County. To the time of the Bleeding Heart.

It is decorated with three woodcuts, and consists of twenty-four verses, beginning—

Good people all that round about me stand,  
Pray mind the strange afflictions in this land ;  
Such wonders scarce before has ever been,  
In Somersetshire at Wotton they were seen.

So the whole story is told, verse by verse.

In 1723 came a narrative which seems to have been very successful, as three editions were issued. It professes to be sold by, and for the benefit of, the author—

The Great Mercy and Power of God in Succouring the Tempted ; Wonderfully Manifested in the Case of Edward Millard, of Langport, in the County of Somerset. Recollected and written by himself, and published for a Memorial of the Glory of God and the Benefit and Instruction of all those who may labour under the like Temptations.

The second edition is undated, but was about 1725—

The Strange and Surprising Case of Edward Millard : shewing the fearful effects of his rash Vows and Promises, under Convictions ; how by relapsing into Sin after Repentance he fell into Despair. Wherein the Great Mercy and Power of God hath been manifested in a wonderful manner, in Succouring and supporting him under his inward Terrors and Temptations. Recollected and Written by Himself, and published for a Memorial to the Glory of God ; and a Warning to all Carnal Professors, and Profane Scoffers.

Another and later edition, also undated, reads—

A Brief and True Relation of the Surprising Case of Edward Millard, of Langport, in the County of Somerset. Shewing the fearful Tragedy of his Life, and his hard conflict with the powers of Darkness ; wherein the Great Mercy and Power of God hath been manifested in a wonderful manner in succouring the Tempted and Despairing Soul. Recollected and written by Himself, and published for a Memorial to the Glory of God, and the Benefit and Instruction of all those who may Labour under the like Temptations.

2nd Edition, with large additions, wherein the causes of his Misery is more largely set forth.

The story told here is of his sinful beginning, his terror and miserable torture and reformation. Sometimes he was tempted to cut his throat, or drown himself ; sometimes he beat his head against the wall, and “by that means hurt his skull and brain.” Once he was tempted to throw himself out of window, but, on looking down, saw the ground on fire, and flaming as Hell before

him ; “ whereupon he was filled with fear, and drew back.” All of which, “ after much wrestling,” he considered was from the Lord ; and so, being reduced to great extremity by his affliction, he made it known to the world.

Returning to the ghostly, in 1788 was produced—

An Account of the Apparition of the Ghost of Major George Sydenham (late of Dulverton in the county of Somerset) to Captain Wm. Dyke (late of Skilgate, in the county of Somerset also, and now likewise deceased), as it is related by a worthy and learned gentleman, called Doctor Thomas Dyke, a near kinsman of the Captain’s.

The Doctor being sent for to the house of the late Major to see a child, on his way, called on, and took with him the Captain, who mentioned to him an argument he had had with the Major about the existence of a God, and a mutual promise that he who died first should return, and give the other a full account of his experiences, adding, “ I am come on purpose to night to hear it.” During the night the two went to the trysting place in the garden, but nothing was seen. Later, however, when the Captain was at Eaton, having taken there his two sons, the Major came suddenly to his bedside, and of course tells him that there was a God, and that he had better turn over a new leaf. The Captain, being terribly frightened, was never the same brisk and jovial man again, and died in about two years.

A curious little thing, on a favourite subject, was issued about 1790—

The Second Spira ; or the Blasphemers Reproved. Setting forth an example of God’s Judgments on Six Profane Young Men at Brodney in Somersetshire. To which is added a Sermon preached on the occasion by the Reverend Mr. Simmons.

Of this there are three editions, one of 1810 having a wood-cut of the six young men. It consists of two leaves only ; one being occupied with the story, the other with the sermon. These young men, having long given themselves to a wild course of life, went into the churchyard at midnight, carrying with them wine and bread, intending to take the sacrament in the name of the Devil. As they were preparing, a voice was heard warning

them to turn and repent. Although all heard it, they were proceeding with their plan, when there arose such dreadful and astonishing cries, bellowings and dismal groans, that Mr. Simmons, living near, was awoke, and got up to see what had occurred. He saw the wine and the bread, but nobody with it, and so went to bed again. But next morning the young men were found lying about in a most deplorable condition, blood running from their mouths and ears, &c.

From Banbury, about 1820, was supplied a "large assortment of Godly books, Patters, and old sheet ballads," &c. One of these was—

The Proud Squire Reformed: being a great example both to Rich and Poor. In a account of one Squire Howard, living near the town of Chard in Somerset. How he was in his Grove, where he saw at a distance a poor labouring man by the side of a brook, eating bread and drinking water, to satisfy his hunger and thirst, and then returning thanks to God for it. Here is likewise an account of the poor man's death, and the strange manner of the Squire's Reformation: when returning homewards, how he heard a noise, and an angel appeared, and told him the richest man in the parish should die that night; and how charitable the Squire is to the poor and industrious people in general. Several respectable Persons in the said parish can testify the truth hereof.

There are four woodcuts—a horse, an angel, Father Time, and the squire kneeling at prayer. It is a ballad of twenty-three verses, beginning—

Of all the Poems we have read of late,  
To remind us of our charge and future state,  
The subject which I now am to unfold,  
Is worthy to be penn'd in lines of gold.

So it goes on to tell how the proud Squire, looking on all other people with disdain, whilst walking in his grove one day, was watching a poor man thank God for his crust and then go contentedly to his work, when he heard a voice say that the richest man in that parish would die that night. Taking this to mean himself, he went home trembling, told his wife, and went to bed.

She watched him all night, but when 'twas day,  
Alive in health before them there he lay.



Just then the great bell began to toll, when the squire cried,  
     Who's dead ? go ask and see,  
     That I may know, who richer was, than me.

On finding it to be the poor man he had seen the day before,  
 he cursed all pomp and gaudy rich attire, and vowed

    T'was folly to prize earth's fading store,  
     With great possessions, to be a man that's poor.

From this time he declared,

    In mourning I will appear,  
     Leaving myself but fifty pounds a year  
     To live upon, the rest I'll daily give  
     Unto the parish poor whilst I do live.

A few were now printed in Bristol. The three named below are single sheets, and their titles sufficiently explain their contents.

A Particular Account of the singular and melancholy awful Death of Peter Holway, Farmer, at Hemlock, near Wellington, Somerset, whose Wife wished he might break his neck before he returned home, which happened accordingly.

The Truly Melancholy Death of William Brooks, of Berrington, in Somersetshire, who put a period to his existence by cutting his throat with a razor, at the Door of his Sweetheart, just as she was sitting down to her Wedding Dinner.

A True and Particular Account of the Melancholy Death of Josepa Gaskill, son of Mr. Gaskill, of Compton, who was unfortunately Blown to Pieces by standing too near the fire with Gunpowder in his pocket.

But the county of Somerset enjoys a special position in relation to these publications, as two of the earliest stories printed in England relate to it, and afterwards became very popular chap-books. First, there was the *Wife of Bath*, printed by Caxton in 1476, which in ballad form has had many editions; and then, but little later, that of *Joseph of Armatthy*, printed by Wynkyn de Worde. This latter was popularised in several editions, beginning about 1740. It is called,

The Holy Disciple, or, the History of Joseph of Arimathea. Wherein is contained a true account of his Birth, his Parentage, his Country, his Education, his Piety, and his begging of Pontius Pilate the Body of our blessed Saviour after his Crucifixion, which he buried in a new Sepulchre of his own. Also the occasion of his coming to England, where he first preached the Gospel at Glastonbury in Somersetshire, where is still growing that noted White

Thorn which buds every Christmas day in the Morning, blossoms at Noon, and fades at Night, on the place where he pitched his Staff in the ground. With a full Relation of his Death and Burial. (Two woodcuts.) 12mo, Newcastle.

Joseph, as a boy, had a good memory and was quick of apprehension. Being appointed to go and preach the Gospel in England, he took shipping at Joppa, and after much difficulty and many storms, landed at Barrow Bay, and then proceeded to Glastonbury.

*The Wife of Bath* was much earlier in the field. An early, but not the earliest issue, is about the year 1670. It is a single sheet, printed in black letter, and has three woodcuts,—a lady, a walled city, and a man in robes with a sword. The title reads:

The Wanton Wife of Bath. The tune is Flying Fame.

Another edition, of about 1700, is—

The Wife of Beath much better Reformed, Enlarged and Corrected than it was formerly in the Old Copy. With the addition of many other things.

In later editions, the titles occasionally differ, thus, after several others, about 1805, there was—

The Wife of Beith, Reviv'd once more. Giving a new and enlarged account of her Life, Death, and Journey to Heaven, How she miss'd the Road and came to Hell, How the Devil and her were like to fight, Because he would not let her in, How at last she got the better at the flyting, and set off the second time for Heaven, flyting all the way, With the difficulties, torments, trials and sufferings she encountered in her journey. Also the swearing, fighting, blessing, cursing, flyting, &c., &c., &c., she got and gave before she was admitted. Moscow; printed for the Cossacks. (*i.e.* Stirling). 12mo.

All the examples here noticed are extremely rare, and for that among other reasons, are much valued by those who give the subject their special attention. Others could be named, some being designedly omitted as unsuited for remark. Their immediate predecessor was the ballad, printed on one side of a slip, as in Queen Elizabeth's time, or sung only, as up to the time of Queen Mary. Thus their origin must be sought before printing existed, in the story tellers of old. This class is still found in Italy gaining a livelihood by repeating some traditional, or per-

haps classical tale; or one entirely their "own make," based on some trifling event which has come to their knowledge, and which, as may be imagined, does not decrease either in mystery or interest in the telling. Even Chaucer's story of *The Wife of Bath*, the first printed and the most lastingly popular, is founded on a fable of the thirteenth century.

Since the introduction of our modern means of easy and constant intercommunication, this class of literature has declined; the daily press now, for the same price, supplying careful details of the horrible or nauseous, sufficient to satisfy the most morbid curiosity; and noting facts, more wonderful, in their truth, than any invention of the wildest fancy.

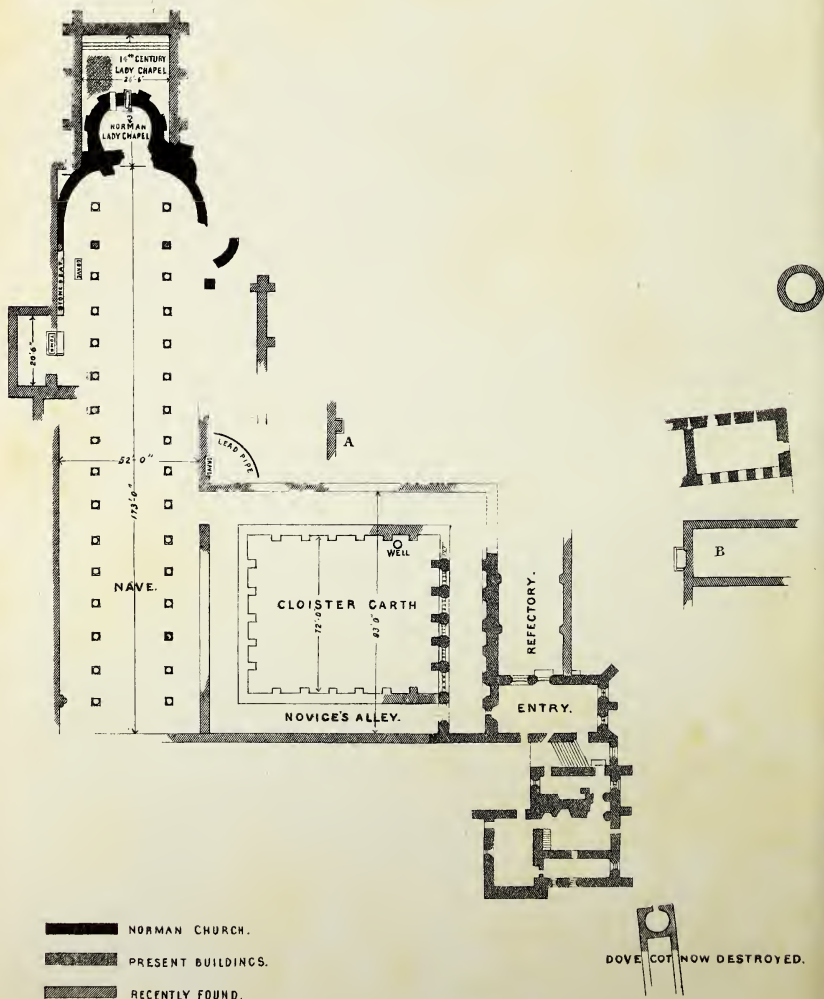
---



# Plan of Foundations at Murchelney Abbey.



HAMSTONE HEARTH.





## Notes on the Excavations at Muchelney.

BY T. SHELMERDINE.

THERE are but few, if any, that do not know the name of Muchelney, and a great many of you I have no doubt have visited the spot on which once stood this magnificent Benedictine Abbey. On this quiet spot, surrounded by its stately elms, nothing of the old Abbey Church is now to be seen. I have sat there hours and only heard the bleating of the sheep, or the caw of the rook, and occasionally been disturbed by the venerable owl dropping out of one of the elms and quaintly surveying my handiwork.

It is not my intention to give you the history of this place; that has already been done by the Rev. Thomas Hugo, in the Society's *Proceedings* for 1858 ; but, as some of you may not have seen that exhaustive paper, I will just say that the Abbey is mentioned as being founded by King Athelstan in the year 939, being the 14th year of his reign. But the Church must have been in hand some time before this, for, according to an ancient calendar, it was dedicated 7th January, 939. It was about this time that Athelstan ordered the Bible to be translated into Saxon, his mother tongue.

In the winter of 1872, Mr. Westlake, the tenant farmer, ordered a heap of rubbish to be removed out of the orchard on to some portion of the farm. I may here state that up to this date nothing at all was known about the exact formation of the Abbey Church ; certainly Dugdale, and others, give the size of it, but do not mention the spot on which it stood. About 5 feet below the surface the men came upon a large flat stone, which proved to be the cover of a coffin. This stone was 6 feet 3 inches long, 3 feet 3 inches across the top, and 2 feet 8 inches across the bottom ; and on turning the stone over (for it was lying on its face), it was found to have on it a rudely cut crozier,

with a Tudor rose in the centre. It was under this stone that we had the first glimpse of the beautiful pavement, which has since been found to be the floor of the 14th century Lady Chapel. In 1873, Mr. Long, the owner, visited the site, and he at once put on a lot of men, and explored the spot for a fortnight. The north wall of the Lady Chapel was followed until they came to three steps; these steps were formed of blue lias, a very small portion of the top edge of the step being visible, the risers and treads being formed by tiles, inlaid into the stone, which must have had a beautiful effect when the Church was in its glory. The tiles were laid diagonally. No rule seems to have been carried out, for tiles of different dates are laid altogether. The beautiful early centre piece, which is made up with nearly 100 pieces, was not found entire; the pieces were put together when found, till at last they formed the centre. All the tiles in this centre are of a red colour, inlaid with yellow ornaments. There are about 50 different patterns of tiles in this one floor. The tiles, as I said before, are of different dates, Norman, Early English, Decorated, and Perpendicular. Some of the early tiles are very quaint—terrible ugly looking dragons, and nondescript sort of animals, that would create dismay in the heart of any S. George. The Early English tiles are beautiful examples of the potter's art of that period. Take, for instance, the beautiful curved lines of the two birds on the fleur-de-lis, and the two birds on the towers. This is most likely the representation of the west end of the Church, a central tower with two flanking turrets. A great many specimens of Decorated tiles have been found, some of them representing knights on horseback. One of these knights carries a shield, which is, *gules*, three escutcheons, *or*. These might not be the proper tints, for at that period it was difficult to give the tiles more than two colours, red and yellow. I have been unable to trace whose shield this would be, so many wearing that shield with different tinctures. Other tiles have the arms of the De Warrens and the Montague family. On one of them there are the sword, key, and

saltier, the emblems of Saints Peter, Paul, and Andrew. These are the saints to whom the Church was dedicated, although it is generally called the Church of Saints Peter and Paul. But I find in one of the Royal Rolls, still preserved in the British Museum, that William, the then Abbot of Muchelney, was fined, and he is there described as of Saints Peter, Paul, and Andrew ; this MS. is dated 1498. The same emblems appear on the seal of the Abbey. But, to proceed with the tiles, on one of them there is a splendid specimen of the elephant and castle ; this is believed to be one of the oldest elephants in England. There is one about the same date in Exeter Cathedral, placed there by William de Briwere, or, as it is now written, " Brewer." He was consecrated to that see 1224. The lion rampant and two-headed eagle, are also to be found here in great abundance. One very pretty set of tiles I must not forget to mention representing a hunting scene. I dare say some of the monks were as fond of hunting as Englishmen are at the present time ; at any rate, we have here the stag courant, or in full course, the huntsman on foot, leaning on his spear, which is in his left hand, and in his right a horn, which he is in the act of blowing, at the same time he is partially turned round, as if in the act of calling on his dogs, which appear to be fully up to their work, for they are, or seem to be, advancing at a terrible pace. The attitude of the huntsman is very good.

There are also a great number of Perpendicular tiles, far too numerous to mention here. One good tile was found, about 9 inches  $\times$  3 inches, with green letters on it. I am not quite certain what they are, but I think the letters will be found to be BRAEMAR. A number of the tiles are 8 inches  $\times$  8 inches, of a dull olive colour, with curious sunk patterns on them.

I must not forget to mention that I think that the tiles must have been laid with green bands and black angles, instead of black and yellow angles ; for specimens of green tiles have been found the same size as the black ones ; this would have a lovely

effect. The floor, at some period, not long before the Dissolution, must have been taken up and relaid, which would account for the many dates in the one floor. The floor, when found, was taken up and relaid in the chancel of the present Church. When the tiles had been taken up a stone coffin was found, empty. The stone I mentioned before was the cover of this coffin, for it appeared to be simply turned over to rifle the grave of the dead. The coffin is the same shape as several others found on the site, cut out of a solid stone, with a hollow place for the head. On the north side of the coffin a stone grave was found—at least, stone at the sides ; nothing but earth was found at each end. In this grave the skeleton of a man, about 5 feet 10 inches long, was found. There did not appear to have been any coffin ; a few nails were found, and two copper buckles. Both the grave and coffin were built in a very strong foundation, which, on searching further, proved to be the foundation of the Saxon or Norman Church, which was in the shape of a horse shoe. Round the outside of this apse were four buttresses, in exactly the same position, and the same number, as the Norman Lady Chapel at Canterbury. On the north and south sides of this Chapel some very strong foundations were found, which were evidently of the same date. These, I would suggest, were the foundations of two flanking turrets, as at Canterbury and Norwich. Since this was found, other portions of the Norman Church have been uncovered, which I have coloured black on the plan, for the sake of distinction. The Lady Chapel is 16 feet long and 17 feet wide, and the Norman Church would be about 50 feet wide.

In 1874, part of the foundations of the south transept was found, also the north-east corner of the cloisters. In this wall a grave was found, filled with mortar ; in it, at the depth of 5 feet, the skeleton of a man was uncovered—his head on one side, and his jaw broken. Near this grave a lead pipe, about  $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch bore, was found ; this was in short lengths, making altogether about 13 feet 6 inches long. This evidently was a drain from a lavatory

in the cloisters. Since then, at different times, the whole of the north wall of the Church has been found. This wall, which is probably the north aisle wall, built in the 14th century, terminated square at the east end, with a small doorway, either leading to the roof or outside. There is a stone seat built in this wall, which is perfect for 40 feet.


About 50 feet 6 inches from the east end of this aisle a small Chapel was found, 20 feet 6 inches long, and 10 feet wide. In this Chapel the remains of a monument were dug up, and a full-size figure of what was probably one of the monks. The head was battered off; at the foot, for the feet to rest on, was a lion. The tiles in this Chapel, at the east end, appeared to have been raised, as if there had been an altar there. At the entrance to this Chapel two skeletons were found under an archway. No doubt the monument stood on this arch. Could this be the Chapel mentioned by Collinson as dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary?

Near this Chapel a splendid canopy was unearthed, beautifully gilded and coloured. The carving on this is magnificent. Near this a curious figure was found, which, I believe, represents the Holy Trinity. It is the figure of a boy, holding in his hand a dove, and a portion of a larger figure is standing behind the boy—in fact, holding him in his hands. The large figure, I believe, represents the Father; the lesser figure, the Son; and the bird, the Holy Ghost. A similar design, in stained glass, is in one of the churches at York.

Only two of the foundations of piers in the nave have yet been found; to find the whole of them the orchard would have to be destroyed, and thousands of loads of earth taken away. According to the two that are found, the aisles would be 9 feet wide to centre of piers; which would make the nave 34 feet wide from the centre to centre of piers. The two found are at the east end of the nave. Near these the high altar would stand. The bases of two columns are still standing in the north wall. These give you the distance from centre to centre of columns in



the nave arcades, which would be divided into seventeen arches, being 10 feet 2 inches from centre to centre of each column.

This year Mr. Long has had another staff of workmen there for a fortnight, and he has succeeded in uncovering the whole of the foundations of the 14th century Lady Chapel ; which is found to be 43 feet long, 26 feet 6 inches wide. There are the usual two buttresses at each angle, and two buttresses on the north and south sides. This Chapel I have marked  on the plan.

About 40 feet south-east of this Lady Chapel, a fire-place, 3 feet 10 inches  $\times$  3 feet 4 inches, was found. This fire-place had a stone fender all round, and had been very much used. This seems to have been in the centre of some room, but what room this was I cannot say. The fender was completely burned away in some places.

The east wall of the cloisters is now decided upon, which gives the clear width of the cloisters 96 feet. In digging for this wall, just inside the cloister garth, a well was found ; this well was cased with stone, and about 14 feet deep. This in all probability supplied the lavatory in the cloisters. Near here was found what appeared to be a hearth-stone, but on closer inspection it was found to be the base of a buttress. From its position I should think it one of the buttresses of the Chapter House, which would stand in this position. This I have marked *A* on the plan. We have now got the full length and width of the Church, but the figures do not correspond with those given by Collinson. The Church is 173 feet long, 52 feet wide ; this, and the length of the Lady Chapel, making a total of 216 feet.

Last summer Mr. Westlake pointed out to me a fire-place, and foundations of some of the offices ; these I have marked *B* on the plan. Near this spot there is a building, the use of which I have been unable to find out. It is a decorated building, with a south and east door. On the north side there are five open arches. These arches are very low, being only 3 feet 6 inches above the floor level to the crown of the arch. The windows are mere squints, about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide, with very deep splays

inside, and pointed heads outside. On the south-east corner of this building some circular foundations appear above the soil ; these seem to have been the foundations of a dovecot.

I will now endeavour to explain some of the stone work dug up during the excavations. Several pieces of Norman arches have been found, probably belonging to the arch that would be between the Norman Lady Chapel and Church ; two or three pieces of Norman diaper work, belonging to string courses and columns, and the well known boar's head.

I will now pass into the Early English period. A great quantity of caps, bases, &c., has been found of blue stones, which appear to have formed a screen. The work on them is very fine, and the columns of two sizes—3 and  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches in diameter. I only saw one Early English boss. Some portions of early tombs were found in blue stone, the carving on them being beautiful. What patience the workmen must have had ! I question whether you would find workmen to do it now ; it must have taken months to do a very small portion of some of it at that period. Some very fine Decorated caps and bases have been found, with the well known ball flower round the caps.

The Perpendicular carving and mouldings are very rich—I should say some of the finest in England. The central bosses belonging to the groined ceiling are really magnificent, some of them two feet square, into which seven very fine bold mouldings intersect, which formed the moulding in the ceiling. Others, not so large, into which four mouldings intersected, are beautiful specimens of the carver's art, and in splendid condition—in fact, almost as sharp as if only just out of the carver's hands. To describe the mouldings and tracery, of which there are loads, would take up too much of your time. The plate tracery, which no doubt belonged to the Lady Chapel, could, with a little care be put together, and would give us the complete windows of the Chapel.

I will now pass to some Early Perpendicular monuments, or portions of monuments, that have been found during the different

times the explorations have been going on, which consist of canopies, finials, and bosses. The carving of these, and of the crockets, is simply superb ; some of the crockets being only three-quarters of an inch long, beautifully carved. One bit, which appears to have been a small cap, with part of the column attached, is very curious, the column being oval, and the cap only three-quarters of an inch long, with two rows of billets round it. On the columns there are a lot of rude figures cut, which seem to be men on horseback, and trees, as if intended for a hunting scene. The cap itself seems like a Norman cap for some niche. Only one piece of pottery, that I am aware of, has been found ; that consists of the neck of a bottle, with portions of the lower part, and a portion of the twisted handle. The neck is about three-eighths of an inch in diameter, and it is of a dull green colour.

In concluding these brief notes, I trust, ere long, the Society will give us another call at Langport, it being now seventeen years since the Meeting was held there ; and I am sure there are a great many things now to be seen that the Society did not get a glimpse of when they visited the neighbourhood. Muchelney alone would be well worth a visit, and I hope before this time next year we shall be able to report that the foundations of the Chapter House and of the whole of the Church are uncovered.

---

# Report of Excavation of a Twin Barrow and a Single Round Barrow, at Sigwell, Parish of Charlton Horethorne, Somerset.

---

BY PROFESSOR ROLLESTON, M.D., F.R.S., AND  
MAJOR-GENERAL A. LANE FOX, F.R.S.

---

THE following account of the examination of three round barrows at Sigwell, in the parish of Charlton Horethorne, two of which were in juxta position, and may be spoken of as a twin barrow, while the other stood apart from any other barrow, but overlooked what we hold to have been a camp of an earlier period than these barrows, throws light upon the following general questions :—Firstly, it shows that in the Bronze Age, and amongst men who were practising cremation, considerable variety existed as to their mode of disposing of the dead. In the two burials discovered no urn had been employed, and the bones had been picked out of the pyre and placed apart—one set in a bark coffin, the other simply in a separate place in the soil of the barrow. Yet, in one of the barrows pottery was found, of a kind which showed, with some probability, that urn burial was not unknown to the original constructors of the barrow. Secondly, the measurements of the exterior mass of each barrow, as compared with those of the very small spaces in which the burnt bones were contained (in one case within a circle of 6 in. radius), will show how exceedingly easy it must be to overlook the existence of such a burial, and how cautious we should be in asserting that nothing can be found in such mounds to serve as their *raison d'être*. Thirdly, the relative position and elevation, and other peculiarities of one of these barrows (that to be hereinafter spoken of as Sigwell 3), and of a small British Camp, show, as we believe, very unmistakeably, that the camp was earlier in point of date than the barrow, and the work of stone-using, not of bronze-using men.

The British Association gave a grant towards the defrayment of the expenses of this exploration, and the following report was read before the Plymouth Meeting in Aug., 1877 :—

The examination of the Twin Barrow was begun on July 18th, 1877, by opening the tumulus situated to the north ("Sigwell I") by a trench 9 ft. 1 in. wide from the east side. The natural soil, lias sand, was of a light yellow colour, with concretions of a small size and somewhat darker hue intermingled with it, and was readily enough distinguishable from the made earth of the barrow, which was darker in colour, owing to finely divided carbonaceous matter, and was also more loosely compacted. The natural soil was 5 ft. below the top of the barrow at its eastern edge, and 9 ft. below it at the centre. When the excavation had passed the centre westward, it was opened out northwards to a length of 21 ft. A great deal of charcoal was found about 4 ft. above the natural surface at the centre; and 7 ft. 6 in. from the surface under the centre picket a well-formed flint "scraper" or "strike a light" was found. And in all, about 20 fragments of worked flint were found in this barrow, some of them with *patina* upon them, and some with rose-coloured staining (from manganese?), but most retaining the black surfaces of their original fractures unchanged, and showing thereby that they were chipped during, or only shortly before, the erection of the mound for the purpose of funereal ceremony. But in this northern part of the twin barrow we found no pottery, no bronze, no interment, and the flints, such as they were, were much fewer in mere number than in either of the two barrows to be hereafter described. Our failure to find any interment may be explained by the fact that this mound was very extensively burrowed into by badgers, foxes, and rabbits, and, if the interment had been contained within as small a compass, and had consisted of such easily scatterable materials as those contained and discovered in the two other mounds, it is easy to see how it might have been entirely dispersed and destroyed.

We commenced upon the southernmost of the two halves of the



twin barrow ("Sigwell II"), driving a trench 15 ft. wide from east to west, beginning along a line 30 ft. south of the line of the centre picket, but some little way from the actual southern boundary of the barrow. Some excavation had been made, either for the sake of investigation or for digging out rabbits, &c., on the south-east side of the barrow. The earth disturbed by this operation had been partly thrown out eastward, partly filled in again. Through the westward part of the disturbed soil we dug, and found that the diggers had not gone very far down, and had left a steel for striking a light and a piece of glazed pottery in their filling in. We came upon the natural surface at a depth of 9 ft. 10 in., as in the northern barrow, the ground and the mound being of the same distinctive character as regards each other.

A piece of British pottery was found, 15 ft. 6 in. to the south-west of the centre picket, and 9 ft. 10 in. below the surface. It had been, apparently, the bottom of a jar or urn, and may possibly indicate that an urn burial had taken place in this barrow before the one we have had to deal with. The distal half of the metacarpal or metatarsal of a sheep or goat was found about 5 ft. down in the barrow, near to the centre picket. It was a good deal decayed, but one of the phalanges was found in relation with it. 3 ft. 8 in. to the west of the centre picket we found a grave 1 ft. 6 in. deep, in the natural soil, 10 ft. long, 5 ft. wide at the north, 4 ft. wide at the south end; its long axis due magnetic north and south; that of the tumulus itself about N. 5° E.

The eastern edge of the grave was 1 ft. to west of the centre picket, 3 ft. 10 in. of the length of the grave being to the south of the centre, and the remaining 6 ft. 2 in. to the north. In this grave was contained a bark coffin, inside of which were a bronze dagger and a quantity of very thoroughly-burnt small fragments of human bones; the longest diameter of the largest of these fragments being only  $\frac{3}{4}$  in., it is difficult to say more than that this fragment, being apparently a part of that portion of the occipital bone which is known as the *Torcula Hirophili*,

the very same portion of bone as that which was found in the deposit of La Tinierre, and one which possesses a singular power of resisting various destructive agencies, probably belonged to a young male subject. With this and one or two more fragments of skull there are some fragments of the long bones. With the above fragments were mixed up here (as also in Sigwell III, to be hereafter described,) masses of bones so burnt and so broken up as to present an Oxford-grey colour from the intimate intermingling of their white with their carbonised factors. With the bones were mixed up inside the oak-bark coffin some flint flakes, but not a single fragment of charcoal. The coffin had been made of two pieces of bark, which had been fastened together so as to leave two free ends projecting freely, not wrapped round each other. But in one section, drawn by Gen. Lane Fox, the upper bark cover having been shorter than the lower, this latter simply curves round its free edge. As the ensuing description will show, the lower piece of bark must have been laid upon the ground, and the bones from the pyre or ustrinum must have been brought to it and placed upon and along it, together with the earth and the bronze dagger and the flints which were found inside the coffin by us. The upper piece of bark was then put over the entire mass of contents and the rest of the barrow piled over them.

The coffin's east edge was nearer the east border of the grave than its west edge was. At this edge it was about 1 ft. 2 in. short of the grave's boundary. Its length was from south to north about 7 ft. In working from south to north we had cut away the south end of the coffin before we were aware of it, so that we cannot say with perfect certainty where its south edge began, but as its north end was to be seen 2 ft. from the north end of the grave, the entire length of which was only 10 ft., this is of no great consequence. The width of the coffin was from 34 in. to 36 in., its depth in the middle line about 6 in. 5.

The contents of the bark coffin contrasted very strikingly with the made earth of the barrow above; with the natural soil

into which the grave was sunk on either side ; and, thirdly, with the soil from the grave itself, which had been thrown up on the east side of the grave, as seen and shown in the section.

The soil within the coffin was lighter a good deal than the made earth of the barrow, the intermingling of which with finely divided carbonaceous matter had made it in places very dark ; but was much less light than the natural ground into which the grave was sunk. But it is of great importance to note that in the soil *inside* the bark coffin no fragments of charcoal sufficiently large to be detected with the naked eye were visible ; as hence we see that the body was burned some distance away from the grave, and that the burnt bones<sup>1</sup> were picked up out of the ashes and carried to the grave separately, being distributed as deposited throughout the entire length of the coffin examined. The upper bark was much thinner than the lower, the lower being as much as seven-eighths of an inch thick, whilst the upper was as little as one-fifth to one-fourth of an inch. The upper piece had split in some places and the sand had worked its way into the space left empty.

*In situ* the layers of bark towards the interior were black, and the outer reddish ; but on drying, the reddish colour is in many places the colour throughout the entire thickness of the bark. Microscopic examination showed us no dotted cells, and the Scotch fir is thereby excluded, but it is possible that it may have come from the Wych elm. Its structure, however, had been made exceedingly difficult to examine by the ravages of a fungus.

In this coffin, together with the bones and the two or three flint chips, was a bronze dagger with three rivets, 6 inches long from proximal rivet to point. It was much decayed, and did not rest on the bottom of the coffin, but was separated from it by a considerable thickness of dullish yellow sand. Its point was broken away for a length of seven-tenths of an inch, and this

(1). For the picking up of the burnt bones see Max Müller, *Die Todtenbistalling Zeitschrift Deutsche Morgenland Gesoll*, vol. ix, p. 17 ; Colebrooke, *Life and Essays, Asiatic Researches*, vol. ii, p. 188.

part was brought away on a piece of the hardened sandy earth. This lump of earth is preserved with a little of the crumbled-away part of the point adherent to it: the greater part of this point, however, has been attached, together with the rest of the blade, to a piece of cardboard. The lamina which held the rivets has broken up, and small fragments of bronze diffused throughout the soil represent it. The dagger lay near the southern end of the grave, about 2 feet from the end: its rivet end was at the south, its point at the north.

An interment, which must have been of a somewhat similar character, is described by Mr. Spence Bates, F.R.S., in the *Transactions of the Devon Association*, vol. v., 1872, pp. 555, 556. There "a mass of comminuted bones mixed with earth, instead of being enclosed in an urn, were found lying closely placed together in one spot beneath the stones." And in the earth that was carted home, "besides a quantity of bits of bone, was found the blade of a bronze dagger."

Sigwell III., Monday, July 23, 1877.—Commenced work with seven men upon the barrow to the south-west of Sigwell Camp, by cutting a trench 17 ft. long and 12 ft. 6 in. wide, and to south-west of centre picket. This barrow resembled the two already described as Sigwell I and II.—in the material and mode of construction, in containing burnt bones which had been picked out of the ashes of the fire in which the body they belonged to had been burnt and buried apart; and, in containing fragments of coarse pottery, it resembled Sigwell II., but differed from it in not furnishing any specimen of bronze, and in (perhaps by way of compensation) furnishing a very large number of worked flints—some black, others whitened on their fractured surfaces, and in containing a small fragment of a patterned drinking-cup or food vessel, and in containing a very much larger quantity of human burnt bones as well as two large fragments of unburnt bones, an *os innominatum* to wit, and a piece of *femur*. Among other important lessons taught by the history of this barrow, one of special importance is the ease with which



it is possible to miss an interment, when that interment lies within a circle of half a foot radius, and consists only of a small quantity of either very finely comminuted or all but pulverized burnt bones.

A good scraper was found 3 ft. 5 in. south-west of the central picket and 4 ft. 7 in. below the level of it. All through this barrow flints were found in much greater abundance than in either of the other two. We were inclined to connect their presence in this quantity with the absence in this barrow of any rabbit holes, supposing that a rabbit in burrowing would be likely to throw out a worked flint rather than an equivalent mass of sand for obvious reasons, mechanical and others. But we should not press this view.

Exactly beneath the centre picket and 6 ft. below it, was a mass of burnt bones, occupying a circle of about 1 foot in diameter. The bones belonged to an adult, sex uncertain. In two other spots in the barrow two other bones were found, viz., a fragment of a right *os innominatum*, the acetabulous portion of which is so shallow as to suggest that it has been affected by disease and absorption; and a fragment of a *femur*, also of the right side.

The burnt bones were in much greater quantity than those found in Sigwell No. II, and had some, though very little, charcoal among them. A difference which may be accounted for by the place in which they were burnt having been in close proximity to the place where we found them.

The place of burning we discovered thus—at a depth of 1 ft. 9 in. below the burnt bones there was a thick seam of burnt wood, 4 inches thick, and the floor below the ashes, at a spot a little to the north-east of the centre, was very much reddened, showing that a fire had been lighted and had burned with much intensity upon it. In these ashes on the floor of the barrow were a few fragments of human bones, well burnt, like those above, which we may suppose therefore to have escaped the careful outpicking which had removed so large a number of



the burnt bones from interminglement with the ashes, and had placed them together as described, on the top of a mass of earth piled up to a height of nearly 2 ft. about the site of the pyre. A similar upping of earth must have taken place in the bark coffin in Sigwell II, as the description shows, and a similar picking out of the bones from among the ashes. That the fire had been lighted on the original surface without paring away the turf was plain enough from the fact that, in paring it immediately below the ashes, at 7 ft. 9 in. to 8 ft. below the centre picket, the stalks of coarse grass and bracken were very plainly visible in section. But besides this we found also round sections of small stakes, about 1 in. in diameter, which penetrated 6 or 7 inches down into the natural soil, and some of which tapered towards their lower ends. They had been stuck in to support the pile of wood we may suppose. A chipped flint disc  $2\frac{1}{2}$  in., chipped on both sides, was found in the centre of the burnt wood, which might have been used as a sling-stone with a riband sling. Of the other flints some had black fracture surfaces, others had been weathered before being put into the barrow. Two good scrapers were amongst them, one having been found by us 3 ft. 5 in. south-west of the centre and 4 ft. 7 in. below the surface, the other having been found in superintending the filling in of the excavation. One flint has a saw edge, as we think purposely produced: another has the appearance (but not as we think the reality) of a barbed arrow head. Some of the flints had been burnt.

The two bones found at a distance from the burnt ones may nevertheless have belonged to the same body as that which furnished the ashes. Both are of the right side: the one an *os innominatum*, the other a *femur* fragment. They may have escaped the perfect burning to which the rest of the skeleton was subjected. Why they were not put together with the perfectly burnt bones we do not know.

The charcoal and ashes of the fire must have undergone a very complete shifting of place as regards a considerable part of them,

for the layer of charcoal over the natural soil, which had been reddened, was not thicker than that which was over the parts which were not so reddened. The charcoal over these latter parts therefore must have been removed on to them.

That the burnt bones were collected in a skin, or possibly in some textile fabric, and so placed where we found them, may, in the absence of any relics of bark, or of either of the other substances just mentioned, be shown to be probable by a reference to a paper by the Baba Rajendralala Mitra, in the *Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal*, 1870, iv, p. 253, where we read that the bones from the pyre are "washed and put in an urn, or tied up in a piece of black antelope skin." That the two large fragments of bone found in this interment may very well have belonged to the same body as that which furnished the ashes, is evident from the following observations of Dr. Hutchinson.

Dr. Hutchinson, of Patna, an active observer of "all that can throw light upon our knowledge of medical jurisprudence in India, took an opportunity to ascertain exactly the amount of wood which would be necessary to destroy entirely an adult healthy body, and the time that would be necessary for its entire cremation. The pyre was composed of 10 maunds of wood, but an equal amount of fala straw was necessary, as also two bottles of oil. The pile was lighted at 6.30 p.m., and at 3 a.m. next morning the consumption of the body was declared to be complete. When he visited the spot, he found in the centre of the ashes the heads of two *femora* entire, but completely calcined, and a mass of incinerated matter as large as two fists, said to be the remains of the liver. Thus 20 maunds, or 1,600 lbs., of wood and straw, and two bottles of oil, were required to consume a healthy body, and  $8\frac{1}{2}$  hours were required for the operation, which even then was virtually incomplete. Here, however, five times the needful quantity of fuel was consumed."

---

# Observations on the Topography of Sigwell.

BY MAJOR-GENERAL A. LANE FOX.

AS it was my particular function during these excavations (see last paper) to make the survey and take the measurements, a few words on the topography of Sigwell may be desirable.

Leaving Professor Rolleston (whose admirable description we have just heard) to superintend the digging, I set about examining the surroundings.

At the distance of a mile in a south-west direction we have Cadbury, a large British Camp, which, like most earthworks that are distinctly British, occupies with its entrenchments the whole brow of the hill on which it is situated. It is one of those positions which the Rev. F. Warre, in his excellent classification of the British Camps of this district,<sup>1</sup> describes as fortresses pure and simple, having no interior divisions, as distinguished from other works which, having a kind of keep, and sometimes one or two fortified interior partitions, he considers to be fortified towns, rather than positions of a purely military character. It is on a detached spur from the line of hills and which run north and south, forming the eastern boundary of the Yeo valley, and the source of many of its tributary streams.

To the west of Cadbury the ground is low for some distance. On the east the summit of the hills is occupied by table-land, the margin of which is defined by Hicknoll, Pen hill, Charwell, Sigwell, and Beacon hill; and between this range and Cadbury is the long eastward-stretching valley of Whitcombe, with its central stream rising in Sigwell, and joining another stream from the summit of Charwell, (and below Pen,) below Cadbury hill, from which point it flows westward by Sutton Montis, and ultimately into the Yeo. Paddock hill is another detached hill belonging to this range, and situated between Cadbury and Beacon hill.

(1). *Som. : Archæol. : Proc.* : vol. v, p. 38.

The position of the twin barrow, first opened and described by Professor Rolleston on the table-land, is shewn on a sketch made by me, which it must be observed has no pretension to accurate detail, but is simply an enlargement from the ordnance 1 inch map. Past this tumulus an ancient British roadway runs northward, and, turning to the west, descends the hill by the steep ravine between the round barrow, opened afterwards, and Sigwell; and then, running along the north-east of Whitcombe valley, below the hill and beneath Charwell, takes the direction of South Cadbury. My attention was first directed to the little spur of Sigwell, between the two steep ravines which unite at the springs, from which Sigwell derives its name.

This spur, it soon appeared evident, had been converted into a camp by means of a ditch, about 60 feet wide, uniting the two ravines. The artificial character of this ditch is shown by its direction, forming with the two ravines the base of an equilateral triangle, and therefore being a position in which it would be impossible that it could have been excavated by water flowing down the ravines from the high ground. The rampart, if it ever had one, has been destroyed, but it is possible the earth from the ditch may have been used to form an interior mound. It would appear that the ditch, as at first drawn, formed too oblique an angle with the northern ravine, and that, in order to prevent the position from being taken in reverse by missiles from the high ground on the opposite side, the ditch was afterwards thrown back on that side. This, at least, appears to me the best way of accounting for a mound composed of undisturbed soil, which has been left in the ditch on the line of the old escarp, and another smaller ditch cut at the back of it; the structure, however, is peculiar, and may bear different interpretations.

The ditch throughout its length is shallower than the two ravines which form the north and south defences of the triangular interspace, but, as the soil is yielding, it is probable that the ravines may have deepened considerably since the place was used for defence, and the enclosed space has probably, by the

widening of the ravines at their summit, been much reduced, whereas the ditch, not being liable to denudation by water, has retained its original depth, or filled in by wash of sand from both sides.

The interior of the camp is commanded, at the short bow-shot range of about 120 feet, by the summit of the tumulus Sigwell III. I assume, therefore, that it is unlikely that the defenders of the place should have allowed such an erection to be made outside their camp at the time it was occupied, and, as we have proved by excavation that the tumulus belongs to the Bronze Age, it is a reasonable conjecture that the camp was abandoned at some time previous to the termination of the Bronze period.

This is confirmed by finding an unusual number of flint flakes and chips in the interior of this camp. I say unusual, because a considerable portion of the neighbouring ploughed land was searched by the whole party without finding such an accumulation of flakes in any other spot. So abundant were they that we should have no hesitation in pronouncing such an accumulation of chips as marking the site of a small flint implement factory, wherever it might be found.

This evidence of the antiquity of the camp must be taken for what it is worth. In my judgment, and what is of greater value, in the judgment of Professor Rolleston and three other gentlemen by whom we were accompanied, it is sufficient to make it extremely probable that the camp is at least as early as the Bronze Age : assuming it to be a work of defence, which I see no reason to doubt.

Another hypothesis may be mentioned, viz., that the ditch, instead of being a work of defence, is simply the continuation of the ancient roadway, which, instead of passing down the ravine, ran across the top of the hill ; and thus the small trench above mentioned is the way down the eastern ravine. This view, however, is rejected by both Professor Rolleston and me.

We have now to consider the value of this conclusion, and its bearing upon the topography of the surrounding neighbourhood.



It is seen that this camp at Sigwell commands the Springs beneath it. Charwell, also, on the nearest projecting hillock to the north, had been already recognised as a British camp, by Mr. Bennett. The entrenchment at Charwell, with its ditch on the outside cutting across the gorge of the hill, is distinctly seen on the east side, the remaining sides being defended by natural declivities, which, as usual in British camps, are rarely strengthened by embankments; the only exception being, in this case, at the west end, where the slope is more gentle, and where a small rampart, now used as a division to a field, has been thrown up so as to enclose the spring before mentioned, which rises on this hill and joins the Sigwell rivulet beneath Cadbury. Both these small camps therefore covered springs. Whether there is a camp on Beacon hill to the south I am unable to say with certainty—my impression is that there was. There has certainly been a low bank with a ditch on the outside across the gorge or narrowest part of the hill, but the greater part of it has been destroyed by a quarry, and there is no spring upon this hill that I am aware of.

There are also traces of a small bank on Hicknoll, to the north, but not of sufficient extent to afford adequate evidence of a defensive work.

Whether there were two or more of these posts, it appears unlikely that such small and feebly defended camps could have held their own as the strongholds of independent tribes in the vicinity of so large and powerful a fortress as Cadbury, defended by three ramparts and almost precipitous declivities on all sides, and we might therefore assume on *a priori* grounds that they were outposts dependent on the larger fortress. But other and more cogent reasons may be urged in favour of this assumption. The occupiers of Cadbury had flocks and herds, as is proved by animal remains discovered in the interior, and described first by Mr. Winwood and subsequently by Professor Rolleston.<sup>2</sup> These flocks and herds must have had pasture somewhere. To the

(2). *Som : Archæol : Proc* : vol. xvi, p. 18.

west, as I have said before, the great valley is low, swampy, and probably, at that time, an impassable jungle. The high, dry, and well-watered valley of Whitcombe, between the camp and the hills, would be the only place in the neighbourhood where these flocks could be pastured. But with the commanding hills to the east and the springs arising from them in the hands of an enemy, there could be no security against surprise by hostile neighbours, who, approaching them unperceived from the table-land, might at any moment make raids upon their cattle from the hills above. The sources of this water supply, and the command of the hills, must therefore have been a matter of vital concern to the possessors of Cadbury; and the small camps of Sigwell and Charwell appear to have been thrown up to command the springs, and secure an uninterrupted communication with the plateau beyond; where also, as well as in the valley, there was good pasturage. From these considerations it would appear that we have here evidence of a central fortress, defended on one side, and that the most approachable, by a chain of detached but dependent outposts, which, affording as it does some insight into the social condition and military organization of the inhabitants of this district at a very remote period, may be regarded as being of some interest to anthropologists.

That Cadbury was occupied at a later date than that of which I have been speaking appears certain, from the discovery of horse shoes and other objects of iron within the camp.<sup>3</sup> But, if the evidence afforded by Sigwell Camp and the adjoining tumuli is to be relied upon, (and I see no reason why it should not be accepted at least provisionally), the first erection of the fortress, and its connection with the neighbouring outposts, should date from a period certainly earlier than the Bronze Age.

(3). *Som : Archæol : Proc* : vol. xvi, p. 18.

---

# On the Name of Silver Street,

WITH A NOTICE OF SOME TRACES OF THE ROMANS IN AND  
ABOUT TAUNTON.

---

BY JAMES HURLY PRING, M.D.

---

AS the interest which attaches to the name of Silver-street may not be very generally known, it is hoped that the following remarks in reference to it may prove acceptable on the present occasion.<sup>1</sup> In taking a survey of Silver-street, in this town, at the present time, there is certainly nothing in its appearance to betoken that at the earliest known period—at least, so long ago as the time of the Romans—it formed the principal approach to Taunton (or rather to the locality known to us as Taunton), yet I trust to be able to show that this was actually the case. It is well-known that the name *street*, the Latin *stratum*, or *via strata*, was adopted by the Saxons as the characteristic appellation of a Roman road, and, where it has existed from ancient times, it may always be taken as representing a Roman way. In a very marked and special manner also does it appear that the term “*Silver-street*” is always suggestive of the foot-prints of the *Romans*,” though some diversity of opinion seems to prevail as to the mode in which the Roman significance which thus attaches to the word *silver* is to be accounted for. The most usual, and, I believe, the most correct, etymological explanation seems to be that silver is a corruption of *silva*,<sup>2</sup> a wood, a sense in which it is not unreasonable to suppose the name would be frequently applicable at the early period here referred to, when woods and forests abounded over the face of the country. In accepting, then, this explanation of

(1). This paper was read at a *Conversazione Meeting* of the Society, held in Taunton Castle on April 29th, 1878.

(2). *Book of the Axe*, by G. P. R. Pulman, 1875, p. 590.

the term, it will be found to receive marked confirmation from the employment of the name as applied to Silver-street in Taunton, which formed the direct approach from the town to a Roman station, situated in an extensive forest, very probably designated as such by the Romans. I refer to the *Alauna Sylva*,<sup>3</sup> of Ravennas, an appellation, however, which, for reasons which will immediately appear, I would venture to propose should be read *Alaena* instead of *Alauna*. It is admitted by the best authorities on the subject that the important British hill-fortress of Castle Neroche was adopted and used by the Romans in accordance with their prevailing custom in such cases. "The Romans after the invasion of Britain," says the Rev. F. Warre, "occupied many of these hill-forts, such as Hamdon hill, *Neroche*, Cadbury, and others." And in describing Castle Neroche more particularly, he observes, "round the summit of the beacon itself traces remain of a massive wall of strongly cemented masonry, which has been pronounced by a high authority to be of Roman construction." Many other writers concur in the same view. Mr. Pulman, speaking of Neroche as an important British hill-fortress, goes on to state that it was appropriated by the Romans, and adapted to their peculiar plan of castrametation. The late Mr. Davidson, of Sector, near Axminster, referring to Castle Neroche, remarks :—"This noble entrenchment, though of British construction, was in all probability occupied by the Romans, and was, perhaps, the *Alauna Silva* of Ravennas, which is mentioned next in course to *Isca Damnoniorum* and *Moridunum*." The opinion thus expressed by so able a local antiquary as Mr. Davidson, whose writings have contributed largely to illustrate this part of the country, entitles his suggestion to the highest respect, whilst the variety of sites to which

(3). As the comparatively modern use of spelling *Sylva* with a *y* seems to have created a difficulty with some in accepting the derivation of *Silver Street* from *Sylva*, I have thought it best throughout the rest of this paper to retain the ancient mode of spelling with an *i*, *Silva*. In Ainsworth's large Latin Dictionary we find "*Sylva*, vid. *Silva* ; sic enim omnis antiquitas scripsisse videtur."

the Alauna Silva has been assigned by different authors, tends only to exhibit the uncertainty which besets this question. Looking at the combination presented by Neroche, of a noble camp, situated in an extensive forest, and also to the itineraral course in which it comes, as pointed out by Mr. Davidson, I would submit that it was in all probability the real object intended to be specified, and that the difficulty which has arisen on the question of the location of the Alauna Silva (recently referred to as "a great riddle to the interpreters of ancient topography,") is to be ascribed to the characteristic carelessness of Ravennas, as exemplified in this instance, by his having written Alauna, instead of Alaena Silva. On referring to the map of Britannia Romana in Camden, which is taken from Ptolemy, Antonine's Itinerary, &c., we find Alauna and the *Alaunus fluvius* occurring in the North, and still recognisable as Alne and Alnewick in Northumberland. On referring, however, in the same map to the south coast of Devon, where the Axe falls into the English channel, we find in place of Alaunus the name *Alaenus fluvius* is given, and in Ptolemy's description of the British island, Albion, the Axe, according to Horsley, is called Alaenus fluvius, whilst the estuary of the Axe is commonly referred to as the Alaeni Ostia. When we consider the remote distance at which any other place named Alauna is situated, and that here in this immediate vicinity we have undoubtedly the Alaenus fluvius, we arrive at once at the conclusion that if the Axe could be shown to take its rise in, or be in any way connected with, Castle Neroche, the fact might be regarded as affording confirmatory evidence that the mistake of name has arisen, as suggested, from a slight clerical error (so common an occurrence with Ravennas)<sup>4</sup>, the substitution in this case merely of a *u* for an *e*, and that Alaena Silva would thus, in the time of the Romans, be a perfectly legitimate and appropriate name for the Forest of Neroche.

(4). "It will be always useful in consulting Ravennas to remember that, if not a Greek himself, he composed his work from a Greek map, and that the later Greeks always disfigured names and places of foreigners with the arrogant carelessness of the modern French."—*Lyson's Magna Britannia*, vol. vj., p. cccxxi.)



On referring then to the admirable map of the "Rise and Course of the river Axe and its Tributaries," prefixed to Mr. Pulman's very interesting *Book of the Axe*, it was with a feeling of disappointment that in tracing the Axe (as it is now known) to its source, I found it to take its rise at Cheddington in Dorsetshire, thus appearing to have no connexion with Castle Neroche. It then, however, occurred to me that possibly some branch or tributary of the Axe may nevertheless take its rise at Neroche, and on tracing out the Yarty, I found that the portion of the stream bearing this name does so, and that it thus in fact fulfils every requirement that is necessary to confer on Neroche forest the title of *Alaena Silva*. It is not to be supposed that the trivial and arbitrary distinctions of the river into Yarty, Axe, Coly, &c., were known to, or, at all events, were recognised by the Romans,<sup>5</sup> who, viewing the stream as a whole, would rather bestow their chief regard on that branch of it with which, from the fact of its leading to a camp in their own occupation, they would be likely to be best acquainted. It is admitted, in fact, by Horsley and others, that the *Alaenus fluvius* was the name by which the Axe was known to the Romans, and no one, I think, can look at Mr. Pulman's map and see the fine branch, called the Yarty, descending from its source at the foot of the important Roman camp and forest of Neroche, and thence from north to south, maintaining almost a *straight* course (a feature highly prized by the Romans) till it reaches the sea, without recognising that this must in Roman times, have formed part of the true *Alaenus fluvius*,<sup>6</sup> which we thus see taking its rise in

(5). Referring to the adoption by the Romans of British names, Whitaker says, "Acting upon a very different plan, and informed with the natural spirit of conquerors, they affected to bury British under Roman denominations." The *Tone* affords us an instance of the original British name, which, according to Polwhele, was "*Tais*," having thus been greatly transformed.

(6). Camden, Stukley and others held the view that the ancient name of a river may have been common to all its tributaries, and Mr. Kerslake, of Bristol, remarks that "Like a tree, a river with all its branches was only one object, with only one name common to its embouchment or trunk, and to all its ramifications up to their various sources."—(*A Primæval British Metropolis*, &c., Bristol, 1877, p. 89.)

what I venture to regard as the Alaena Silva of Ravennas, joined by the branch now called the Axe, merely as a portion of the same stream, and emptying itself into the sea beyond Axmouth at its estuary, the Alaeni Ostia of Ptolemy. Having thus, I trust, shown the probability there is that the forest of Neroche, at the time its hill-fort was occupied by the Romans, was well entitled to the appellation Alaena Silva, the explanation of the name of Silver-street, as the street or way leading to the wood, will appear in the case of Silver-street, in this town, to be strictly appropriate. A further explanation, however, of the name of Silver-street has been offered in the suggestion that it may be held to mean "*via ad Silures*." This explanation of it in connexion with a street in Lyme Regis bearing the name of Silver-street has been commented on by Mr. Davidson, who, whilst adding his testimony to the fact that the name of Silver-street is "often found in the vicinity of Roman roads and stations," throws out the objection that in this instance the meaning "*via ad Silures*" seems scarcely admissible, because "as that nation inhabited South Wales the application of the term to a road at so great a distance is unlikely." Altogether apart, however, from this question of distance, it appears to me to be an insuperable objection to the explanation, "*via ad Silures*," that the name of Silver-street is to be found in so many localities in England, where the towns in which it occurs cannot possibly be regarded as in any way leading "*ad Silures*," the Roman parts even of London itself furnishing us with more than one instance of this name. For this reason, then, I apprehend that the proposed explanation of "*via ad Silures*" must be dismissed as untenable, whilst the derivation from a corruption of *silva*, or rather *silvæ strata*, the actual term probably in use with the Roman or Romano-British population, is at once easy and natural, and may at the same time be held to be applicable to almost every locality. In commenting on such names as *Silverton*, *Little Silver*, *Silver Hill*, &c., occurring in Devonshire, their derivation has been referred to *Sel*, which it stated,

“according to Kemble, indicates *a wood* or *covert*, and is one of the roots common to the Celt and Saxon.”—If this be the case, a term so nearly assimilating in signification and sound with *Silva*, would, at least, tend to render the transition from the former to the latter name of easy adoption by the Saxons. The question, however, may perhaps be here proposed : If woods in those days were so common, how comes it that they should have been held in such high estimation as to have given rise to this name in so many English towns? In answer to this enquiry, I would observe that whilst it is an admitted fact that the name is of Roman origin,<sup>7</sup> there is good reason for believing that it was of very ancient use even with the Romans themselves, having probably been employed by them from the earliest period of their occupation of Britain, and having been retained by them until it became adopted by the Saxons under the corrupted form in which it has been handed down to, and still exists with us. Assuming that the name was thus in use soon after the Roman conquest, it is certainly a matter of less surprise that it should have existed from that time through the comparatively short period of the 400 years of the Roman occupation, than that it should have endured as it has done from the time of the evacuation of Britain by the Romans down to the present time. Whether, then, as a concession and measure of policy on the part of the Romans, or as a result of that tolerance which characterised the Roman mythology, it is certain that the Druidical rites and mysteries continued to be celebrated in the woods and forests of Britain long after the Roman invasion. In the full and interesting details of these rites, which have been so minutely described by Cæsar, he expressly tells us that the Druidical gatherings were not wholly of a religious character,

(7). It would appear that this *Roman* significance of the term “silver” is to be found recognised from one end of Britain to the other. In the north, as we learn from Horsley, p. 66, “at a place called *Silver Bourne*, near Aberdeen, a great number of *Roman* (not Saxon) coins have been found ;” while in Cornwall, speaking of his family estate of Polwhele Castle, Polwhele tells us that “near what is a *via strata*, the *Silver Close* is *Roman*,” as if the latter were an established fact that required only to be stated.

but that they formed also, as it were, the courts of law, in which crimes were adjudicated on and disputes and controversies settled ; and, he adds, that the Druidic system is thought to have had its origin in Britain, from whence it was introduced into Gaul ; and it is still customary for those who wish to study it more thoroughly to pass over into Britain for that purpose—“*et nunc qui diligentius eam rem cognoscere volunt, plerumque illò discendi causâ proficiscuntur*” (*De Bell. Gall.*, Lib. vi., xiii.) Thus then we have it clearly admitted by Cæsar himself, under his own hand, that these rights were recognised and tolerated in his time, and under his rule, whilst we learn from Tacitus that they were actually in use here in Britain for nearly 100 years afterwards, viz., until the reign of Nero. It is indeed notorious that woods and forests were in many instances held sacred by the Romans, no less than by the Britons, in proof of which it will be sufficient here to cite the names of the groves of Vulcan, Mars, Venus, Bacchus, Sylvanus, &c., whilst in the Aricinian forest in Italy, the *nemoralis silva*, as it is sometimes called, we are furnished with an instance of a grove, a temple, and a sanctuary, all united in one. This dedication of woods to religious uses by the Romans would doubtless tend to reconcile them to their like employment in the rites practised by the Britons. And in this way it may be supposed that by mutual consent, as it were, of the victors and the vanquished, certain sacred or otherwise noted groves were for a long time permitted to remain in various parts of the country, and it is as leading to some such groves as these that I would venture to suggest the name of Silver-street was most frequently and specially applied, as meaning the street or road leading to *the* wood, thereby implying the wood or grove expressly dedicated to religious, judicial, scholastic, or other peculiar purposes. In the particular instance here in Taunton, if we regard the forest of Neroche, the Alaena Silva, as such a wood, it will be at once apparent how appropriate the name of Silver-street would be ; whilst the description left us by the poet Lucan, in the following lines from Rowes' elegant



translation, serves very perfectly to portray such a wood. The first two lines are to be regarded as referring to it in the British period—

“Not far way, for ages past had stood  
An old inviolated sacred wood;”

and then, as viewed in Roman times and by the Roman soldiery,

“This wood, near neighb’ring to th’ encompassed town,  
Untouched by former wars, remained alone.

\* \* \* \* \*

With silent dread and reverence they surveyed  
The gloom majestic of the sacred shade ;  
None dares with impious steel the bark to rend  
Lest on himself the destined stroke descend.”

Thus, then, if it may be deemed permissible to regard Neroche forest, or the Alaena Silva, as such a wood as that here described, it seems by no means improbable that assimilating themselves as they did with those whom they conquered, the Romans, while occupying the camp, would look with complacency upon, and readily permit, the employment of the adjacent forest by the Britons for their own peculiar rites and ceremonies.<sup>8</sup> At all events, in whatever light we may be disposed to regard the suggestion thus offered, it is certain that at this period an extensive forest (Silva) existed in this locality, and from containing a camp occupied by them, was undoubtedly known to the Romans, a fact which must be held to be sufficient for my present purpose in furnishing occasion for the name of the street in question.

Having thus endeavoured, and I trust not unsuccessfully, to throw some light on the meaning of the name of Silver-street, and at the same time to show how well entitled, under the

(8). “When the Britons became Christianised, they were loath to give up their religious meetings in the woods. Perhaps it was hardly to be expected of them by those who converted them, that their prejudices might not be too suddenly shocked. Temples even continued to be called groves after they had been built of wood and stone.”—*Our British Ancestors*, by the Rev. Samuel Lysons, 1865, p. 97. We also read—that “it must never be forgotten that one of the first principles impressed upon the Roman missionaries to Britain, was to *take advantage wherever they could of the religio loci*.”—*Horæ Ferales*, by John M. Kemble, p. 99, 1863.



explanation thus offered, the street known as Silver-street in this town is to the ancient appellation it has for so many ages borne, I will now proceed to point out that independently of its leading directly to the *Alaena Silva*, from which I would venture more especially to deduce its name, it was otherwise an important thoroughfare, forming the chief approach to the town in the time of the Romans. For though the abrupt and unqualified statement by Collinson, that "Taunton is no Roman town," may be strictly true, it is nevertheless a statement that seems to require some modification, and has, too long, it is to be feared, been permitted to exercise a prejudicial influence in its tendency to discourage any investigation of the early condition of the site now known as Taunton, previous to the time of the Saxons. That Taunton cannot prefer any claim to be regarded as a Roman town in the same strict sense in which that term is applicable to the important stations of Dorchester and Ilchester, for example, must of course at once be conceded; but, on the other hand, I would venture to submit that it is highly probable that some part of the locality now known as Taunton was the scene of habitation long previous to the time of the Saxons, and, if so, it becomes an object to endeavour to determine by whom it was then inhabited. When we regard the British camp at Norton Fitzwarren on one side and that of Castle Neroche on the other, what can be more probable than that the elevated ground forming the site of Taunton Castle, and extending for some distance around it, should have formed an intermediate point of settlement, and have been occupied previous to the time of Ine by the Romanized Britons? That the elevated rectangular platform on the south-eastern part of the Castle precincts, now used as a playground, may actually be the remains of Roman work, will perhaps be found to be a less preposterous suggestion than may at first sight appear. Mr. G. T. Clark seems to recognize the extreme antiquity of this part of the Castle grounds, as he observes that the people of Taunton "ought to value this space, because they have in it the earliest evidence of military work,"

and "they should point it out as the most extraordinary and interesting part in the history of the town;" but Mr. Clark, like others who have treated of this subject, makes no attempt to carry his researches further back than the time of Ine, assigning, I believe, the construction of this remarkable earth-work in common with the rest of the Castle, and even the town itself, to this pious Saxon king, in the year 702. Whether, however, it is not very probable that the Romans or the Romanized Britons had a footing on this very spot long previous to the time of Ine, and whether, in fact, Mr. Clark does not unconsciously bear testimony to this view of the question, I shall now proceed to examine, availing myself for this purpose of the evidence afforded by that gentleman's own words. In furnishing us with a general rule for judging of earth-works, Mr. Clark states that "when an earth-work is observed to be rectangular in its outline, the presumption is that it is Roman; but if traces of Roman occupation are found around, the presumption is turned into a certainty."<sup>9</sup> Now if the rectangular outline of this earthwork, which is acknowledged by all, establishes the presumption, as here affirmed, of its having been originally Roman, are we not justified in assuming that the discovery which has been made of Roman coins close to this spot "turns the presumption," to use Mr. Clark's own words, "into a certainty?" That Ine selected this site for his residence is quite probable, but, as regards this rectangular earthwork, it is no less probable that he took advantage of it to place his Castle on it, finding it already formed to his hand. The presence of Roman coins and pottery, &c., close by, must be held to afford stronger presumptive evidence that this earthwork owed its origin to the Romans than anything that can be adduced to show that it was ever actually constructed by Ine himself. At a distance of 1100 or 1200 years or more, and with no records to guide us, we must accept the view which bears on it the strongest stamp of probability, and, in this instance, the infallible rule which Mr. Clark himself has given us, receives yet

(9). *Som. Archæol. and Nat. Hist. Soc. Proc.*, vol. xviii, p. 45.

further confirmation from the verdict of a quaint old writer, who assures us that in all such cases—

“Nummus est rei certissimus testis.”

Except, indeed, on the supposition that the Saxons found the site of Taunton already occupied, it is difficult to conceive that it could in so short a time have become a place of such “great note” as to have attracted King Ine to select it for his residence, and to found his Castle here; whilst the statement of Collinson, that a Roman road passed through Taunton, loses all significance, except on the understanding that Taunton existed, and was actually inhabited in Roman times. With perhaps fewer indications of the fact than are afforded by Taunton, Mr. Pulman has insisted, and I conceive very justly, that Chard was for a considerable period the scene of Roman occupation; and the words in which he describes what he regards to have been the condition of Chard at the early period here referred to are at once so interesting, and, as it appears to me, so applicable to Taunton also, that I feel no apology is necessary for introducing them here. Having pointed out that Chard, as is the case also with Taunton, lies in the midst of what are known to be the remains of ancient British life and occupation, he proceeds to remark, “These and other circumstances leave no doubt that Chard, or rather the locality known to us as Chard, was at a remote period the scene of ancient British life. It might have been only a few huts in the woods, the inhabitants of which either fled before the Romans, or remained as slaves after the invader had beaten in the field the heroic bands, which no doubt opposed them in the fight for home and liberty. It is certain that when the victory was complete, the conquerors began to settle down among the conquered, and in their own inimitable way to introduce the arts of peace and civilization.” . . . .  
“They did not fail to take advantage of existing towns, or settlements, or whatever were the collected habitations of the Britons, improving, enlarging, and adapting them on their own unvarying principles. Whether Chard was originally ‘adopted,’

or Romanized, or not, it is impossible to say with certainty, but that it was the scene of Roman occupation is indisputable. As at Dorchester, Bridport, and Honiton, the broad, straight streets of Chard, with their rectangular intersections, point unmistakably to that occupation." These observations on the early condition of Chard, are, I conceive, in all respects, *mutatis mutandis*, equally applicable to Taunton, the name of which might well be substituted for that of Chard, without doing any violence to the context. There yet remain, however, one or two points as regards the evidences of Roman occupation, in which Taunton may claim to have the advantage over Chard, inasmuch as although the Roman remains, which have been found in the immediate vicinity of Chard, are sufficiently abundant to justify Mr. Pulman's views, it does not appear that any traces of the Romans have actually been discovered within the town of Chard itself, whilst evidences of the presence of the Romans have been found, not only immediately contiguous to, but in the very centre of the town of Taunton. The earliest discovery of this kind of which we have any notice was in the year 1643, when, in the course of removing "the foundations of an old house *near the Castle*," a number of Roman coins and other objects were discovered, being the instance of the occurrence of Roman remains at this spot already alluded to. The fact was communicated by Collinson to Dr. Toulmin, by whom it was first recorded in his *History of Taunton*, published in 1791, where he further mentions "a like incident having occurred within the memory of man" (probably about 1750), when, on pulling down an old house in St. James's parish, a coin of Vespasian was found, having on the reverse a female captive, her hands bound behind her to a palm tree, with the legend, "*Judæa capta*," &c. Although there is not the slightest reason to question the accuracy of the statements by Collinson and Toulmin, yet as the period to which they refer is somewhat remote, it is all the more satisfactory to find them receiving additional confirmation in our own day. Unfortunately I am unable to state the precise year,



but believe it was in the year 1861, that it became necessary to excavate to a considerable depth in front of the West of England and South Wales Bank in Fore-street, when some Roman or Romano-British pottery was exposed, a good specimen of which is now to be seen in our Museum, to which it was presented by our late respected secretary, Mr. W. A. Jones. It is to be regretted, however, that beyond a mere notice of the place of its discovery, the deposit of this Roman relic was unaccompanied by any date or other detail connected with its finding. It would be very interesting to know the depth at which it was discovered, as indicating the level of the town in Roman times, and suggesting the depth of excavation short of which there would be little likelihood of making any further discovery of Roman remains. From such enquiries as I have been able to make, I gather that this pottery was found at a depth of thirteen feet, which I presume may accordingly be taken to be somewhat about the amount of superincumbent soil which has been accumulated in this particular locality since the time of the Romans. The Museum also contains specimens of Romano-British pottery, dug up in the Taunton Cemetery, in 1858. In addition to the unequivocal indications which the discovery of these material objects affords of the presence of the Romans on the very site of Taunton, a further confirmation of the fact is furnished also by the language of the people, which has stamped its impress, as it were, upon this locality. Without insisting more particularly in this place on the Roman significance of the name of the street forming the more especial occasion of this paper,<sup>10</sup> we have, further in the name of Plaistreet, on the other side of the town, a clear proof of the existence of a Roman road at this spot, whilst Collinson himself actually assigns to Taunton the distinctly Romano-British name of "Thonodunum" that is, the hill, hillock, or eminence near the Tone. It has, I

(10). Mr. Davidson argues that Lyme was known to the Romans, "as the principal entrance to it bears the name of Silver-street." (*British and Roman Remains*, p. 62.)



am aware, been proposed to transfer this name to the earthworks at Norton-Fitzwarren, but unfortunately for the suggestion, though Norton certainly possesses a hill, it cannot be said that the Tone flows near it. There might, indeed, have been reason for the attempt to deprive Taunton of its ancient Roman title, had it been possessed of no feature that would justify its application; but whilst the elevated ground around Taunton Castle still remains, rising as it does even now, at its highest point upwards of thirty feet above the level of the Tone, flowing at its foot, we need not look further for any other site on which to bestow the name of *Thonodunum*. As an additional fact, however, that cannot be questioned, we know that about two miles and a half north-west of Taunton there are the remains of a remarkable British earthwork, in the parish of Norton-Fitzwarren, which bears such unmistakable evidences of subsequent occupation and adaption by the Romans, that it has been described by the Rev. Prebendary Scarth as a Roman camp or city. It is further maintained by several writers that about a mile north of this, at a place called Conquest, part of a Roman legion was for some time stationed, and from the large quantities of Roman coins in a perfect state of preservation, which have been found near this spot, and from other indications, the Rev. F. Warre held it probable that even "a mint" had been established here. Then, again, on the opposite side, about a mile from the town on the south-east, the rounded hilly ridge lying to the west above the hamlet of Holway, towards which Silver-street directly leads, was evidently for some period occupied by the Romans, as here also a considerable number of Roman silver coins, all likewise in a high state of preservation, have at different times been found. It would be quite unreasonable to doubt but that frequent intercommunication must have taken place between the Roman soldiery stationed at Conquest and Norton and those who occupied this site at Holway, and in all such intercourse Silver-street must have formed the natural and direct line of route, and must thus frequently have borne the impress of Roman

footprints; and where now the youth of our town wend their way to the Taunton College School, to acquire, *inter alia*, a knowledge of the Latin tongue, the echoes were awakened some fifteen centuries ago to the sound of this same language as it fell from the lips of the Roman soldiery.

In speaking, however, of Silver-street, as having been thus traversed in the time of the Romans, it is not to be supposed that even the roadway itself then was the same as that which we see now. Strange indeed it is, in connexion with this point, that since I began to prepare this paper an interesting discovery has actually been made in Silver-street, in this town, which has had the effect of revealing traces of an ancient buried roadway underneath the present one. The street has lately been opened from one end to the other for the purpose of laying water pipes, and in some situations, at a depth of about two feet, the workmen came upon portions of an ancient *paved way*, which proved to be exceedingly hard and compact, and was formed of large flint stones. In one part the soil for a considerable distance around was perfectly black, and even the flints themselves were stained a black colour. Whether this buried road thus exposed may be held to be the road actually trodden by the Romans or not, is a question on which I venture only to observe that its character, and the depth at which it was found, do not seem inconsistent with its being so regarded. What may have been the precise character of the occupation by the Romans of the site at Holway, it is by no means easy now to determine, nor do the few notices which barely make allusion to it afford us any assistance in the enquiry. It is evident, however, from the general aspect of the locality, and from the number of Roman coins found in various parts of it, as also from the fact of interments having taken place there, that the occupation was one of some duration and covered a large area of ground. Whether or not the site deserves to be regarded as having been used by the Romans as one of their *præsidia* or outposts—one of their *stationes agrariæ*, or advanced posts, to prevent surprise and

guard the country people about in the fields,—or whether it may have been one of their *mutationes* or inns for changing horses and affording accommodation to travellers, are points that remain still open to investigation; but in reference to the last of these I may mention that Mr. Scarth has suggested, from a description which I sent him, that this site probably borders on an ancient Roman road, and he points out that the name of Holway or Holloway indicates such a road, and occurs also on the ancient line of the Foss road through Bath, where it crosses the Avon and ascends the hill, and points towards Shepton Mallet. In a part of Holway-lane, near this place, a portion of an old road, on a higher level than the modern one, still remains to be seen, and it is to be regretted that a paper “On Traces of Ancient Roads in Holway-lane,” by the late Mr. Elliot, read at one of these *Conversazione Meetings* in 1865, has never been published, as it doubtless contained both useful and interesting information, which is now lost. And here, whilst touching on Holway in this aspect, I cannot help drawing attention in passing to the remarkable coincidence we find in the association of names occurring just in this locality and in the old part of London. In the neighbourhood of Watling-street, in London, which it is stated was “no doubt in its whole length a Roman causeway,” the name of Holloway-street occurs, and not far off we have examples of the name of Silver-street, and also of the name of Shoreditch, all not further apart from each other in the old Roman part of London, than Silver-street, Holway, and Shoreditch are distant from each other here in Taunton. Some significance must, I apprehend, be held to be conveyed by this association of names, an explanation of which it is hoped this notice of the fact may help to elicit.

It was in the year 1821 that a Roman urn containing a great number of Roman silver coins was ploughed up at Holway, in a field called the Ten Acres, belonging to Mr. Blake, the plough-share striking against the urn and breaking off the top of it. Near the urn were found also the remains of two human

skeletons. The earliest of the coins found in the urn was one of the 5th year of Constans, A.D. 342, and the latest of them one of the 10th year of Honorius, bearing the mint mark of Constantinople, A.D. 405, thus fixing the period of the Roman occupation in this locality to have been between the years 342 and 405 of the Christian era. The coins were in perfect preservation, and were of the following emperors :—Constans, A.D. 337 ; Constantinus II, 337 ; Julian II, 360 ; Jovian, 363 ; Valentinian I, 364 ; Valens, 364 ; Gratian, 367 ; Valentinian Junior, 375 ; Theodosius, 379 ; Magnus Maximus, 383 ; Eugenius, 392 ; Arcadius, 395 ; and Honorius, 395. As no description of the situation, or other circumstances connected with the field in which this urn and the skeletons were found, has hitherto been given, it is possible that the few following details which I have been enabled to collect on the subject may not prove destitute of interest. The field in question lies in the flat on the eastern side, just below and immediately adjoining the hilly eminence which rises above Holway, at its further extremity from Taunton ; and the skeletons and urn were found at the further or southern side of the field. From the situation in which the interment took place, I think it may fairly be inferred that these bodies were committed to the earth at a short distance outside the settlement or station, and the money found in the urn<sup>11</sup> placed near them was, I conceive, the customary “naulum,” or fare for Charon on the passage of the soul over the waters of the Styx. It must be remembered that after the 2nd century of the Christian era, the period we are here speaking of, the practice of cremation had become unpopular, and had been to a great extent superseded by a return to the more ancient usage, adopted in the present instance, of burying the dead entire. At some distance from the site of this interment, and nearer towards the town, there not long since existed in the same field two large regularly-formed, funnel-shaped circular depressions, about ten feet in diameter and eight or ten feet deep ; and a few years

(11). One of the “funeral pots or pitchers” of Camden (*Britan*, p. 105.)



since the bottom of one of them fell in for a depth of several feet into a chamber or cavity beneath, in consequence of which they were ordered to be filled up, and one of the workmen engaged in the work informed me that it took upwards of ten large loads of earth to fill up each of them. These conical circular depressions correspond so exactly with some just similar to them which have been found at Castle Neroche, and which have been described in the 5th vol. of our *Proceedings* by the Rev. F. Warre, that there can be little doubt but that the purpose for which they were in each case constructed must have been identical, so that in reference to these at Holway I cannot do better than employ the words which Mr. Warre applies to those at Neroche, when he says, "I offer no suggestion as to their use unless they may be supposed to have been *silos* or subterranean graneries"—a suggestion which, from the description I have received of them, seems to apply with almost conclusive force to those at Holway. Slight depressions in the soil still mark the site where these deeper circular hollows existed; and I have lately been informed of the presence of several others at no great distance from this field, and one of which has only quite recently been filled up, the process of subsidence having as yet scarcely ceased. It may here be observed that from nearly the whole of the crest of the hilly eminence which rises above the field, where the urn and skeletons were found, a clear view is obtained of Castle Neroche on one side, and of Cothelstone and Norton on the other, thus proving the importance of this site at Holway as a point of intermediate communication between these distant hill forts, which might thus on either side be easily communicated with at night by beacon fires. Over great part of the surface of the fields on this elevated ground isolated Roman coins have at times been found, but more particularly at the northern extremity or at the end nearest the town. Here also are evidences of artificial disturbances of the soil, exhibiting now little else than slight undulations of the ground, yet wearing the appearance of a rectangular form, whilst in close approximation



we find a considerable hollow or pit, somewhat similar to the one which has been noticed just outside the camp at Norton. It is true that these traces of disturbance are very slight, and of a character that may be deemed insufficient to warrant the conclusion of their having been in any way connected with the occupation of this locality by the Romans, and, but for the fact of the frequent occurrence of Roman coins here, the suggestion would scarcely have presented itself. It is deemed well, however, just to bestow this notice on these evident disturbances of the soil, as it is in close proximity to the spot where they are most apparent that numerous Roman coins have been, and still continue occasionally to be found ; and when viewing the traces of disturbance by the light which this circumstance sheds upon them, we must not fail at the same time to bear in mind that they have for ages past been exposed to the effects of the atmosphere, and to the still more destructive operations of the husbandman. So abundant have been the coins which have been found at this situation, that it is no unusual thing to observe many of the labourers at Holway wearing a bunch of them, often containing several Roman ones amongst them, attached to their watch chains : a source, in fact, from which I have recently obtained a very perfect Valens and a Eugenius, indicating the respective dates of A.D. 378 and 392. In the same way I obtained a second brass coin of Antoninus Pius, with a figure of Britannia on the reverse, which had been found near the same spot as the more recent ones, and which possesses additional interest on account of its earlier date. I have also in my possession a perfect Valentinianus, junr., which was brought to me some time since by a labouring man in my own employ, who told me that many others had been found near the same spot where he came upon this one. The evidence thus afforded by coins spread over so great an extent of land, together with the urn and skeletons, and subterranean graneries, must, I conceive, be held conclusively to establish the fact that for some time this site at Holway must have been in the occupation of the Romans, and here, before

taking leave of this part of the subject, I would just draw attention to the circumstance that two or three of the fields forming the extreme point of this hilly eminence in the direction *leading to Neroche*, bear the suggestive name of *highways*, a fact which is the more deserving of remark, as it tends to illustrate the valuable observations of Dr. Prior, in the 18th vol. of our *Proceedings*, on the importance attaching to the early names of our fields.<sup>11</sup>

It is not, however, merely from its leading direct to Holway and Neroche that Silver-street derives its claim to be regarded as having formed the chief approach to the town at the early period under consideration. If we look abroad over the district lying beyond Taunton on either side, but more especially on the south or Silver-street side, we shall find, extending in all directions, numerous evidences—in camps, in roads, and in other objects—of what have been termed “the relics of Romanity.” On the northern side, in addition to the camp at Norton, with Roman pottery in the railway cutting close by, the remains of another Roman camp further on, at a distance of about two miles from Cothelstone tower, have been noticed by the late Mr. Jones ; whilst, in the year 1711, an urn full of Roman coins, 1,600 in number, was found at Wiveliscombe, and numerous other objects of the like kind in the surrounding neighbourhood are noticed by Collinson. It is, however, as already observed, on the southern side of Taunton, to which Silver-street formed the approach, that we find the most abundant traces of the Romans. Passing by Holway, and proceeding through Haydon, Henlade, and Ash Cross, for a

(11). As a case in point, showing at once the importance of these observations, we learn from Sir Thomas Browne that it was “agreeable unto *Roman* practice to bury by highways, whereby their monuments were under eye.”—*Hydriotaphia*, p. 12, 1686. And again, “that it was a custom of the Romans to bury their dead by the sides of their highways is a fact known to every one who is in the least conversant with their antiquities.”—*Archæologia*, vol. i, pp. 61, 62. Now, as a very interesting fact, supplying its own comment, the field in which the skeletons and accompanying funereal urn were found at Holway, is *immediately outside and adjoining* the fields which still bear the significant name of *Highways*.

distance of about four miles to the south-east we reach Lillesdon, in the parish of North Curry, where, in the year 1748, a large number of Roman coins were found, of which the following description was given in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for September of that year :—" At North Curry, near Taunton, Somersetshire, July 12th, 1748, there was ploughed up in a field where a hedge stood, an urn, in which were contained several Roman coins, viz., Gratianus, Valentinianus, Valens, Theodosius, Honorius, Arcadius, Constantinus, Constans, Julianus, Magnus Maximus, and many others. They are all of the same size, excepting one of Gratianus, with the inscription, " D : N : Gratianus, P.F., Aug.," and on the reverse a sort of angel, standing with one of his feet on a globe, with a shield in his hands, in which are the words, " Vot: V. Mul: X.," and in the round, " Victoria Augustorum," and in the bottom, " S:M:T:R: " This piece is three times as large as the others, and weighs very nearly a shilling. There have been found about 150 of the smaller pieces, and the greater part of them are now in the possession of the Rev. Mr. Woodforde, Vicar of North Curry, above mentioned. They have been viewed by several learned gentlemen, and are reckoned to be some of the greatest curiosities of that kind hitherto found. They are as perfect and free from decay as if they were but lately coined, notwithstanding the latest of them is above 1350 years old." As exact particulars are often of importance, and as it is now so long since it originally appeared, I have deemed it well to reproduce the above brief description in full, just as it was given at the time. It will be observed that the coins were precisely of the same period as those found at Holway, and were in an equally perfect state of preservation. The coincidence is also deserving of note, that the coins at Lillesdon were ploughed up "*where a hedge had stood*," and the greater number of loose coins which have been found of late years at Holway have also been *in a hedge*, or in a bank forming the side of a hedge, thus showing the marked changes which the original face of the sites in which these coins were deposited must have since undergone

at the hand of the agriculturalist. At no great distance from this site at Lillesdon, in the adjoining village of Curry Mallet, is a somewhat isolated group of houses, mostly of antiquated character, bearing the characteristic appellation of *High-street*, a name which, occurring in such a situation, would seem to claim a Roman significance. Mr. Wright, in his book, *The Celt, the Roman, and the Saxon*, tells us that a Roman road runs over the top of one of the mountains of Westmoreland, almost 2,000 feet above the level of the sea, which is named from it *High-street*; and Dr. Guest, in his able article in the *Archæological Journal*, on "The four Roman ways," shows us that the great Roman Foss was continued from Lincoln to the Humber under this name of *High-street*. Proceeding beyond this, at Welltown, at Stan-chester, at Pitney, and at Langport, numerous and important Roman remains have been found, thus tending to illustrate the observation of Mr. Munckton, in the 11th volume of our *Proceedings*, that the surrounding neighbourhood is full of such objects.

Taking leave, then, of this locality, and again quitting Taunton by Silver-street, and continuing almost directly south, we come to Castle Neroche, passing in our way over Staple-hill, with its strange, and to me enigmatical array of boulder stones, extending from this, the Taunton side of Staple-hill, to above the camp at Neroche. Whether the present road, where this line of boulder stones occurs, may have formed part of, or may have been constructed upon an earlier trackway, I am unable to state, but the theory which would account for these boulders from a geological point of view, and would regard them as having been deposited *in situ* where they now lie by the agency of those natural causes to the operation of which the presence of erratic blocks is commonly ascribed, cannot, I apprehend, be regarded as free from difficulties. At all events, even assuming their presence here to be due, as now maintained, to the agency of the vast ice-floats, it would still seem not unreasonable to suppose that their original disposition may have become subsequently modified by human agency, in connexion with the employment of the forest of



Neroche by its first occupants, the Britons. Regarding them in this later aspect, indeed, it is somewhat remarkable that the only other instance I have met with of any similar distribution of boulder stones over a road of this kind occurs in close proximity to the noted Druidical site of Avebury, in Wiltshire. In the 14th volume of the *Archæological Journal*, Mr. J. M. Kemble describes an interesting "boundary line" in this locality, extending from the river Kennet, at East Kennet, to the Wansdike, and states that it re-ascends on the east by "a road still very remarkable for the great stone blocks which lie about it,"<sup>12</sup> till crossing the river and running northward, it then runs westward and southward in the direction of Avebury" (p. 134). The description thus given of this road near Avebury, as "a road still very remarkable for the great stone blocks which lie about it," is a description which even at the present day is perfectly applicable to the road over Staple-hill leading to Neroche, though it is a matter of regret that of late years the number of boulders in this latter road has undergone evident diminution. One of them, as we are all aware, has recently been transferred to these grounds, having received the honourable distinction of serving as a memorial to our highly valued secretary, the late Mr. W. A. Jones; but the greater number of them have, unfortunately, been put to baser uses, some having been broken up for repairing the roads, whilst others have been removed from their original situation and placed at the angles of cross roads, or at the sides of the entrance gates to fields, to serve as guards to prevent wheels from touching. At one time I was under the impression that these boulders were ranged chiefly on the *left* hand side of the road leading from Taunton, that is, on the same side as the camp, but this arrangement, owing, perhaps, to the removals just referred to, appears to me to be less conspicuous than formerly,

(12). In the actual description given in the extract from the Codex Diplomaticus (Evi Saxonici, beginning, "These are the bounds of Overton," we read that the boundary line ran "eastward by south round about Ædelferd's dwelling on the *Stony Road*" (p. 133).



though amongst those still remaining, one, of much larger dimensions than the rest, and the weight of which seems hitherto to have protected it, is still to be seen about half-way up the hill on the left hand side. This block is pierced at nearly opposite points on either side by a hole, rather wide at its orifice, and tapering down to a point, about 8 or 10 inches in depth; but whether these rude perforations are to be referred to natural or to artificial agency it is, as occasionally in the more marked instances of rock-basons, not easy to decide. They wear rather the appearance of having resulted from the effects of drip, though in the present situation of the block there appears to be no source from which it could have been specially exposed to any such agency, at these two particular points.<sup>13</sup> Without, therefore, hazarding any hypothesis on the subject, I have thought it well to offer these remarks in passing in reference to these boulders, in the hope that what has now been said may have the effect of attracting to them the attention they merit, both in an antiquarian and in a geological point of view, and may at the same time help to protect those that remain from further spoliation, and thus assist in preserving a feature which may, perhaps, deserve to be regarded as a curious and interesting appendage to those truly noble British earthworks to which this

(13). I have lately made a more accurate measurement of this block, with its perforations, which I find to be as follows: Length of block, 6 ft. 6 in.; depth, 3 ft. 3 in.; width, 5 ft. 6 in. Of the perforations, the one facing the road is about 4 in. deep, and from 3 in. to 4 in. wide, and it holds about half a pint of water, its capacity having apparently become diminished from some of its outer edge having been broken away. The inner one, towards the hedge, being less exposed, is more perfect. Its width is 6 in., length 8 in., and depth 10 in., and it will contain more than a quart of water. Assuming this block to have been in or near its present situation in the time of the Britons, the suggestion has been made that it might have been employed by them for sacrificial purposes, and that the cavities might have been used to catch some of the blood of the victim. Availing myself of the like assumption, a more pleasing theory of their use seems to suggest itself in the notion that, as in the case of the larger "rock basons," they may have served as receptacles of water for the rites of water lustration, &c. "From such basons," says Polwhele, "the officiating Druid might sanctify the congregation with a more sacred lustration than usual. In this water he might mix his mistletoe, and infuse his oak leaves, for a medicinal or incantorial potion." p. 59, *Historical Views*.

road directly leads. Not far distant from the camp of Neroche there appears to have been a Roman smithy, or what has been described by the Rev. F. Warre as a Roman cavalry station, at which was discovered an immense heap of cinders and scorïæ, such as might be expected near a very large forge, and among them was a considerable number of horse shoes, evidently of very ancient date. It is not surprising that a place of such importance as Neroche, when occupied by a Roman camp, should have been provided with ample means of approach, and we accordingly find that several roads have been described as leading to and from it. Mr. Warre describes a branch of the great Roman Foss way, which led off from Neroche, through Broadway, Atherton, Hurcott, and Water-gore to Hamden-hill, most, if not all, of which places bear evidence also in themselves to the presence of the Romans. Mr. Pulman states that there is little doubt that a Roman vicinal road, constructed upon an earlier British trackway, passed from Neroche and beyond it through Chard; and in the immediate vicinity are the remains of the Roman villa at Wadeford, in the parish of Combe St. Nicholas, which have already been fully described in our *Proceedings*, and which on the occasion of the meeting of the Society at this spot in August, 1866, gave rise to the observations of Mr. Jones, to the effect that the presence of these villas in such situations afforded evidence that the Romans held a quiet and peaceful possession of these districts, and had no fear of being disturbed. Mr. Davidson describes a road passing from Seaton to Taunton, or if it may be permitted to use the Roman names, from Moridunum to Thonodunum, of which road the celebrated Morwood's causeway (since destroyed) formed a part. This road, it appears, branched off to Seaton on the one hand, and to Hembury Fort on the other, its principal line being undoubtedly to the latter place. According to the same author, another road was without a doubt a vicinal way of the Romans, although originally of British formation. "It leaves Castle Neroche on the Black down, and passes over Buckland hill to Whitestanton,

and Baalay down, where it divides—one branch leading to Membury Fort and Axminster, while the other, passing over Smalridge hill, joins the Foss at Stretford.” Indeed, it would be impossible, within the limits of this paper, to trace the Roman roads, the evidences of which, as has been observed, are scattered broadcast over this part of the country. Mr. Pulman states that Chard was certainly occupied by the Romans, and Mr. Davidson insists that the town of Axminster was one of their minor stations. He has shown that the two great Roman roads, the Foss way and the Ikeneld, bend out of their course in order to reach Axminster, and observes in summing up, “The numerous Roman roads which are thus formed to intersect this part of the country in almost every direction, are proofs, if any others were wanting, of the long and peaceful possession of the district by that people.”

To the whole of the country, then, which has now been thus rapidly glanced at, it is manifest that *Silver-street* would form the direct channel of communication for Taunton and the surrounding neighbourhood to the north.

And now, in bringing these observations to a close, whilst it has been my endeavour that they should rest on as firm a basis of probability as is attainable in enquiries of such a remote character, I would still desire it to be understood that I propose them only as conjectural or suggestive, and trust they will thus prove the means of inducing other members of the Society, more competent than myself, to enter on the further investigation of the topics to which they relate.

In the meantime, if I have succeeded in imparting some additional interest to a locality so near to us as Holway—in making more conspicuous the evidences of Roman remains existing in our very midst,—and in rendering it probable that, as has been now suggested, the Devonshire Axe, the Alaenus fluvius, was held in Roman times to take its rise at the foot of Neroche, thereby conferring on this ancient forest the claim to be considered as the Alaena Silva, and thus showing, as it were, the actual

continuity of the three objects represented by the consecutive Roman terms, *Alaena Silva*, *Alaenus fluvius*, and *Alaeni Ostia*, I trust that this attempt to elucidate the name of Silver-street<sup>14</sup> in Taunton, may not be regarded as having been altogether made in vain.

---

The subjoined list exhibits some instances of the name of "*Silver-street*" occurring not only in towns, but also in country districts, remote from any town. In every case there are sufficient traces of the presence of the Romans near to justify the observation that the name of "*Silver-street* is always suggestive of the footprints of the Romans."

Axminster, Bridgwater, Bristol, Buckland St. Mary, Cambridge (*Camboritum*), Chard, Cheddar, Colyton, Congresbury, Curry Mallet, Honiton, Ilminster, Lincoln (*Lindum*), Lyme, Salisbury (which, though not Roman, is close to *Sorbiodunum*), Taunton, Tiverton, Warminster (where a street bearing the name of *Port-way* runs into it at one end, whilst at the other it leads to a street bearing the same name of *Port-way* in Frome), Wells, Wiveliscombe, and Yeovil. To these no doubt many others might easily be added. In three of these, viz.,

(14). Since this lecture was delivered, I have learned that on the other side of Neroche, about a mile and a half from the camp, this name of "*Silver-street*" occurs, and I find that it is applied to a scattered range of houses extending along the roadside, about midway between Broadway and Neroche. From its character and situation it appears that Silver-street in this instance actually lies on the line of what we have seen Mr. Warre describe as "a branch of the great Roman Foss way leading from Hambdon hill, through Watgore, Hurcott, Atherton, and Broadway, to Neroche;" thus, on the other side, carrying the name close up, and as it were almost affixing it to the very object, which as the *Alaena Silva* of the Romans, I hold to have given occasion to the name of Silver-street, as it occurs in Taunton. I may further mention that close to "*High-street*" at Curry Mallet, which has been shown to have a Roman significance, we find also the name of "*Silver-street*," pointing in a marked manner directly towards Neroche, which lies most conspicuously in a straight line with it. The occurrence of the name in this latter instance, and yet more especially in that close to Neroche, lends strong confirmation to the view that the name of *Silver-street* is derived from a corruption of *Silva*, a wood.

those occurring in the rural districts of Curry Mallet, Buckland St. Mary, and West Buckland, "*Silver-street*" is quite remote from any town, and the term "*street*" is not otherwise present. Similar instances are also presented to us by a "*Silver-street*" remote from any town in the Hoo district in Kent, north of Rochester, by one near Culmstock, and by another near the Tiverton Junction Railway Station, in Devonshire. In the last instance it is found close to a "*Cold Harbour*," itself held to indicate the presence of the Romans. The occurrence of the name in towns may, perhaps, in some cases (possibly in Salisbury), be held to be of like kind as in these to which I have referred; for though originally in the country, they may have become included within some town of more modern date.

In an able work with which I have only lately had an opportunity of becoming acquainted, an instance is given of a "*Silver Street*," north of Stow Market, in Suffolk, in connection with which we find the following suggestive question:—"Does not this come from the Latin *Sylva*, just as we say *Wood Street* at the present day?" (Hartshorne's *Salopia Antiqua*, Parker, 1841, p. 280.)

---



### NOTE.

As supplying an additional illustration of the prevalence of this view of the derivation of the word "Silver," and furnishing at the same time an example which possesses a local interest, I may mention that since the foregoing paper was in type I have met with the following :—"Silver, when a suffix, is a corruption of *sylva*. Ex : Monk-silver (Som :), the monks' wood." (*Traces of History in the Names of Places, with a vocabulary of the roots out of which the names of places in England and Wales are formed*, by Flavell Edmunds, new edition, Longman, 1872, p. 283.)

J. H. P.



## Banwell Charters.

BY F. H. DICKINSON, M.A., F.S.A.

IT has been pointed out to me by Mr. Simmons, of Langford, that Churchill, as well as Puxton, was anciently part of Banwell, and still forms part of the manor, and that Calewa is Callow, the plateau of the hill north of Axbridge.

This information obliges me to make some important corrections in the attempt I made last year to explain the boundaries of Banwell and Compton Bishop.

The eastern boundary between Churchill and Wrington and Burrington, is the stream now called Hunt brook, which rises at the great spring under Mendip Lodge; and that spring is plainly the Hillbrook source mentioned in the boundaries of Banwell. The name also occurs in the same place in the boundaries of Wrington and Burrington—at present unpublished—in the Oxford MS. of Wood, and that of Lord Bath, both Glastonbury chartularies.

From the source the boundary now goes east, round Mendip Lodge and Dolebury, to the valley above Churchill. And this exactly agrees with the ancient boundary, which goes east to the combe, all about Losely, and west to the combe. This shows us that Losely is the ancient name of the hill where now are Mendip Lodge and Dolebury. Bibury must be somewhere near the turnpike gate below the combe, probably a barrow, now removed, whence the boundary goes into Tower brook, and up it across to the Loxton brook, leaving out Sandford, which was and is in Winscombe. This is a far more satisfactory boundary than what I was obliged to make the best of, in my ignorance that Churchill had been part of Banwell.

Mr. Llewellyn was so good as to take me round by the place which I suppose to be King-road and to Wick St. Lawrence. We found nothing which controverted and nothing that decidedly proved the guesses I have made in that quarter. From the lower part of the Wrinn the boundary went round Congresbury to what I read as the eastward stream of the Wrinn, and from thence up Hill brook to the source. This is all right, and the only difficulty is the very small size of Congresbury compared

with what is said of it in Domesday. With regard to Calewa, Mr. Earle was quite right, and I wrong in my guesses. Calewa or Callow is the eastern end of the north boundary of Compton Bishop, which goes for several miles along the road and the down. It is mentioned also in the boundaries of Mendip Forest.<sup>1</sup> In or near the valley of the turnpike road and the railway tunnel, the boundary crosses the northern way—that from Axbridge and Cross to the western end of Sandford hill, at the *stile*. That there should have been a gate here is likely enough—between Compton Bishop and Winscombe, between the King and the Abbot of Glastonbury, and, if Mr. Horner's map is right in putting Compton Bishop into the forest of Mendip, on the border of that district; but that there should be a stile, in the modern sense of the word, is inconceivable; and I venture to suggest that anciently stile may have had a less definite meaning, and with Lipiat<sup>2</sup> may have been simply gate.

From the stile the boundary went along the way, where there is none now, to Cearce rode, and then up to Callow. Mr. Simmons points out that the cross, from which the village of Cross is named, probably stood half way down the valley, at the place where the roads to Axbridge and Cross separate. He says that the mile stone which stood there was the point from which distances north and south from Cross were measured, and not from the village itself, half a mile or more below. If he is right—as I incline to think he is—I do not see how this Cross will help us about Cearce rode, more than a quarter of a mile higher up, or why, if it did, the place should be called Church Cross; and, I am disposed to query whether, as the northern way is plainly the present road to Sandford, these words may not mean the road to Churchill, viz., the late Bristol turnpike road.

There are some things that can hardly be done at all, except imperfectly, for if one waits for perfection one waits too long, and that which is imperfect at first is corrected afterwards by the help of others. This must be my excuse for the mistakes I have made.

(1). Collinson, vol. 3, p. 59.

(2). A word often found in the boundaries, and usually interpreted a stile, and which is the name of several places in the West of England.

## Communications on the West Front of Wells Cathedral.

---

FROM MR. J. T. IRVINE AND MR. B. FERREY, F.S.A.

---

ON March 23rd of this year, the Secretary in charge of the publishing work of this Society received the following letter from Mr. J. T. Irvine :—

“While going over sundry old letters and note books relating to Wells Cathedral, I found a letter from Mr. B. Ferrey, the architect of the restoration. In this he expresses considerable doubt as to whether any pedestals to the lost figures, once placed in the two side niches on either hand of the centre niche, containing the figure of our Blessed Lord, at the top of the West Front, remained in 1874. As at some future time it may possibly be desired to replace these lost figures, and the shape and proportion of the pedestals will then become objects of much interest, tending to throw light on the arrangement originally adopted in the Perpendicular period (to which period all the work above the marble string belongs), the dimensions given in my old note book seem worthy of record in the Journal of the Somersetshire Archæological Society. While in the niche on the north side no pedestal remained, in that on the south side the old, long, narrow pedestal was found in fair preservation. The whole clear width of niche, from jamb to jamb, was 4 ft.  $1\frac{3}{4}$  in. The depth of niche, from wall face to back, was about 1 ft. 7 in. The pedestal, placed with a close joint to back wall, was only  $8\frac{1}{2}$  in. in width from back to front, but was  $8\frac{3}{4}$  in. high ; while its length was such as to leave clear between its north end and the jamb 1 ft.  $3\frac{1}{2}$  in., but at the south end a clear width of only 1 ft. 2 in.”



The Secretary has also received the following communication from Mr. B. Ferrey, F.S.A. :—

“ I have only to add to what Mr. Irvine has said, that it was generally supposed that the niches referred to contained angels with thuribles, censuring the statue of our Lord in Glory—a very general arrangement,—but there was no evidence to the fact. At a meeting of the Restoration Committee, after long discussion, it was resolved to leave the niches empty, although the late Rev. F. Horner, and another Member of the Committee, offered to place the figures in them at their own cost, and models by an eminent sculptor were submitted for approval. This was, in my opinion, a wise decision of the Committee ; for such are the incomparable dignity and beauty of the figures on the West Front, that no modern sculpture could bear comparison with them. Mr. Horner accompanied me to see several representations of the Lord’s ‘Majesty,’ but they did not accord with the simple grandeur of what remained, and it was therefore deemed wiser to abandon all thought of meddling with the ancient work.”

---

# Somersetshire Archaeological and Natural History Society. 1878-9.

---

**PATRON:**

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE VISCOUNT PORTMAN.

---

**PRESIDENT:**

THE REVEREND CANON MEADE.

---

**VICE-PRESIDENTS:**

SIR THOMAS DYKE ACLAND, BART., M.P.  
THE RIGHT HON. LORD CARLINGFORD  
THE HON. AND RT. REV. BISHOP CLIFFORD.  
G. T. CLARK, Esq. R. T. COMBE, Esq.  
THE RT. HON. THE EARL OF CORK & ORRERY  
F. H. DICKINSON, Esq. SIR ARTHUR H. ELTON, BART.  
R. W. FALCONER, Esq., M.D. E. A. FREEMAN, D.C.L.  
RALPH NEVILLE GRENVILLE, Esq.  
THE RT. HON. & RT. REV. THE LORD BISHOP OF BATH & WELLS  
SIR A. A. HOOD, BART.  
THOMAS TUTTON KNYFTON, Esq. WM. LONG, Esq.  
THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF LOVELACE  
A. MALET, Esq. SIR W. C. MEDLYCOTT, BART.  
R. H. PAGET, Esq., M.P. W. PINNEY, Esq.  
THE REV. FITZHARDINGE BERKELEY PORTMAN.  
W. A. SANFORD, Esq.  
SIR EDWARD STRACHEY, BART. W. E. SURTEES, Esq.  
THE RIGHT HON. LORD TALBOT DE MALAHIDE  
CHARLES NOEL WELMAN, Esq.

---

**TRUSTEES:**

HENRY JEFFRIES BADCOCK, Esq.  
JOHN BATTEN, Esq.  
GEORGE FOWNES LUTTRELL, Esq.  
HENRY GORGES MOYSEY, Esq.  
WILLIAM AYSHFORD SANFORD, Esq.  
WILLIAM EDWARD SURTEES, Esq.  
SIR ALEXANDER A. HOOD, BART.  
WILLIAM STEPHEN GORE LANGTON, Esq.  
EDWARD J. STANLEY, Esq.

**TREASURERS:**

Henry Badcock and Henry Jeffries Badcock,  
*Taunton.*

---

**GENERAL SECRETARIES:**

Rev. W. Hunt, *Congresbury*; O. W. Malet, *Taunton*;  
C. J. Turner, *Taunton.*

---

**DISTRICT OR LOCAL SECRETARIES:**

A. G. Barham, <i>Bridgwater</i>	Rev. Canon Meade, <i>Castle Cary</i>
John Batten, <i>Yeovil</i>	C. Moore, <i>Bath</i>
E. Chisholm-Batten, <i>Thorn Falcon</i>	W. Müller, <i>Bruton</i>
Rev. H. Clutterbuck, <i>Buckland</i> <i>Dinham</i>	W. W. Munceton, <i>Curry Rivel</i>
Rev. J. Coleman, <i>Allerton</i>	J. H. Pring, M.D., <i>Taunton</i>
H. Dyne, <i>Bruton</i>	Rev. H. M. Scarth, <i>Wrington</i>
Ven. Archdeacon Fitzgerald, <i>South Brent</i>	T. Serel, <i>Wells</i>
C. H. Fox, <i>Wellington</i>	W. B. Sparks, <i>Crewkerne</i>
W. M. Kelly, M.D., <i>Taunton</i>	G. Walters, <i>Frome</i>
Rev. W. H. Lyon, <i>Sherborne</i>	W. L. Winterbotham, <i>Bridgwater</i>
	Rev. H. H. Winwood, <i>Bath</i>
	F. H. Woodforde, M.D., <i>Taunton</i>

---

**COMMITTEE:**

H. Alford	W. Meade-King
Rev. I. S. Gale	T. Meyler
R. K. Meade-King	W. P. Pinchard
A. Malet	Genl. Munro, C.B.
Cecil Smith	C. C. Welman
Rev. W. P. Williams	Rev. J. W. Ward

The President, Vice-Presidents, Trustees, Treasurers, and  
Secretaries are *ex-officio* Members of the Committee.

---

**ASSIST. SEC. and CURATOR:**

W. Bidgood, *Taunton Castle.*

# Trustees of the Pigott Collection of Drawings, Somerset.

The Lord Lieutenant of the County.

The Lord Bishop of the Diocese.

The Members of Parliament for the County.

The Chairman of Quarter Sessions.

The Clerk of the Peace for the County.

James Hurly Pring, Esq., M.D.,

Edward Frederic Smyth-Pigott, Esq.,

The Rev. George Octavius Smyth-Pigott, } *For Life.*

---

---

## Honorary and Corresponding Members.

Acland, W. H., Esq., M.D., *Regius Professor of Medicine*, Oxford.

Babington, C. C., Esq., F.R.S., F.S.A., *Professor of Botany*,  
5, Trumpington Road, Cambridge.

Charlton, Dr., *Sec. Antiquarian Society*, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Dawkins, W. Boyd, Esq., F.R.S., F.G.S., The Owens College,  
Manchester.

Dimock, Rev. J. F., Barnborough, Doncaster.

Ferrey, B., Esq., F.S.A., Spring Gardens, London, S.W.

Godwin, George, Esq., F.R.S., F.S.A., Brompton.

Green, Rev. J. R., M.A., London.

Lloyd, Dr., *Sec. Archaeological and Natural History Society*, Warwick.

Owen, Professor, C.B., F.R.S., &c., *Head of Natural History Department*,  
British Museum.

Parker, J. H., Esq., C.B., Oxford.

Ramsey, A. C., Esq., F.R.S., *Professor of Geology*, School of Mines,  
London.

Smith, C. Roach, Esq., F.S.A., Strood, Rochester.

Stubbs, Rev. W., M.A., *Regius Professor of Modern History*, Oxford.

Willis, Rev. R., F.R.S., F.G.S., *Jacksonian Professor*, Cambridge.

Wilson, Daniel, Esq., LL.D., *Professor of English Language*, Toronto,  
Canada.

# Societies in Correspondence.

---

- The Archæological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland*  
*The British Archæological Association*  
*The Society of Antiquaries of London*  
*Society of Antiquaries of Scotland*  
*The Royal Irish Academy*  
*The Royal Historical and Archæological Association of Ireland*  
*The Cambrian Archæological Society*  
*The Associated Architectural Societies of Northampton, &c., &c.*  
*The Sussex Archæological Society*  
*The Suffolk Institute of Archæology and Natural History*  
*The Surrey Archæological Society*  
*The Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire*  
*The Chester Local Archæological Society*  
*The Wiltshire Archæological and Natural History Society*  
*The London and Middlesex Archæological Society*  
*The Plymouth Institution and Devon and Cornwall Nat. Hist. Soc.*  
*The Kent Archæological Society*  
*The Bristol and Gloucestershire Archæological Society*  
*The Powys Land Club*  
*The Derbyshire Archæological and Natural History Society*  
*The Bath Natural History and Antiquarian Field Club*  
*The Geologists' Association*  
*The Royal Dublin Society*  
*The Bristol Naturalists' Society*  
*The Literary and Philosophical Society of Liverpool*  
*Literary and Philosophical Society of Manchester*  
*The Watford Natural History Society*  
*Imperial and Royal Geographical Society of Vienna*  
*The Royal Norwegian University, Christiana*  
*Societie Vaudoise des Sciences Naturelles, Lausanne*  
*University College, Toronto, Canada*  
*Smithsonian Institution, Washington, U.S.*  
*The Essex Institute, Salem, Massachussets, U.S.*



## Rules.

---

THIS Society shall be denominated "THE SOMERSETSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY;" and its object shall be the cultivation of, and collecting information on, Archæology and Natural History in their various branches, but more particularly in connection with the county of Somerset, and the establishment of a Museum and Library.

II.—The Officers of the Society shall consist of a Patron and Trustees, elected for life; a President; Vice-Presidents; General and District, or Local Secretaries; and a Treasurer, elected at each Anniversary Meeting; with a Committee of twelve, six of whom shall go out annually by rotation, but may be re-elected. No person shall be elected on the Committee until he shall have been six months a Member of the Society.

III.—Anniversary General Meetings shall be held for the purpose of electing the Officers, of receiving the Report of the Committee for the past year, and of transacting all other necessary business, at such time and place as the Committee shall appoint, of which Meetings three weeks' notice shall be given to the Members.

IV.—There shall also be a General Meeting, fixed by the Committee, for the purpose of receiving Reports, reading Papers, and transacting business. All Members shall have the privilege of introducing one friend to the Anniversary and General Meetings.

V.—The Committee is empowered to call special Meetings of the Society upon receiving a requisition signed by ten Members. Three weeks' notice of such special Meetings and its object shall be given to each Member.

VI.—The affairs of the Society shall be directed by the Committee (of which the Officers of the Society shall be *ex-officio* Members), which shall hold Monthly Meetings for receiving reports from the Secretaries and sub-Committees, and for transacting other necessary business; three of the Committee shall be a quorum. Members may attend the Monthly Committee Meetings after the Official business has been transacted.

VII.—The Chairman, at Meetings of the Society, shall have a casting vote in addition to his vote as a Member.

VIII.—One (at least) of the Secretaries shall attend each Meeting, and shall keep a record of its proceedings. The property of the Society shall be held in trust for the Members by twelve Trustees, who shall be chosen from the Members at any General Meeting. All Manuscripts and Communications and the other property of the Society shall be under the charge of the Secretaries.

IX.—Candidates for admission as Members shall be proposed by two Members at any of the General or Committee Meetings, and the election shall be determined by ballot at the next Committee or General Meeting; three-fourths of the Members present balloting shall elect. The Rules of the Society shall be subscribed by every person becoming a Member.

X.—Ladies shall be eligible as Members of the Society without ballot, being proposed by two Members and approved by the majority of the Meeting.

XI.—Each Member shall pay Ten Shillings on admission to the Society, and Ten Shillings as an annual subscription, which shall become due on the first of January in each year and shall be paid in advance.

XII.—Donors of Ten Guineas or upwards shall be Members for life.

XIII. At General Meetings of the Society the Committee may recommend persons to be balloted for as Honorary or Corresponding Members.

XIV.—When any office shall become vacant or any new appointment shall be requisite, the Committee shall have power to fill up the same; such appointments shall remain in force only till the next General Meeting, when they shall be either confirmed or annulled.

XV.—The Treasurer shall receive all Subscriptions and Donations made to the Society, and shall pay all accounts passed by the Committee; he shall keep a book of receipts and payments which he shall produce whenever the Committee shall require it; the accounts shall be audited previously to the Anniversary Meeting by two Members of the Committee chosen for that purpose, and an abstract of them shall be read at the Meeting.

XVI.—No change shall be made in the laws of the Society except at a General or Special Meeting, at which twelve Members at least shall be present. Of the proposed change a month's notice shall be given to the Secretaries, who shall communicate the same to each Member three weeks before the Meeting.

XVII.—Papers read at Meetings of the Society shall (with the author's consent, and subject to the discretion of the Committee), be published in the *Proceedings* of the Society.

XVIII.—No religious or political discussions shall be permitted at Meetings of the Society.

XIX.—Any person contributing books or specimens to the Museum shall be at liberty to resume possession of them in the event of a dissolution of the Society. Persons shall also have liberty to deposit books or specimens for a specific time only.

XX.—In case of dissolution the real property of the Society in Taunton shall be held by the Trustees for the advancement of Literature, Science, and Art, in the town of Taunton and the county of Somerset.

May, 1879.

\* \* \* *It is requested that contributions to the Museum or Library be sent to the Curator, at the Taunton Castle.*



# Members.

1879.

Those marked \* are Life Members.

- Acland, Sir T. D., Bart., M.P., *Killerton Park, Devon*  
 Acton, H. B., 4, *Great Bedford-street, Bath*  
 Adair, Col. A. W. *Heatherton Park, Wellington*  
 Adair, Rev. H. J. *Bradford*  
 5 Adlam, William, *Manor House, Chew Magna, Bristol*  
 Alford, H. *Taunton*  
 Allen, J. Mountford, *Crewkerne*  
 Altham, Major, *Timbercombe, Aisholt, Bridgwater*  
 Arlosh, Rev. James  
 10 Ashworth-Hallett, Mrs. L. S. *Claverton Lodge, Bathwick Hill, Bath*  
  
 Badcock, H. *Wheatleigh Lodge, Taunton*  
 Badcock, H. J. *Taunton*  
 Bagehot, Edward, *Langport*  
 Bagehot, Watson, *Heale, Curry Rivel*  
 15 Bailey, Robert, *Taunton*  
 Baker, Rev. F. Walter, *Beaulieu, Hants*  
 Baker, John, *Ilminster*  
 Baker, Sir W. *The Castle, Banwell*  
 Barnicott, Reginald, *Taunton*  
 20 Barclay, A. C., M.P. 25, *Bolton-street, Piccadilly, London*  
 Barham, A. G. *Bridgwater*  
 Barnwell, Rev. E. L. *Melksham House, Melksham*  
 Barrett, Jonathan, *Taunton*  
 Barrett, Major, *Moreden House, North Curry*  
 25 Bartlett, Rev. R. Leach, *Thurloxton*  
 Bartrum, J. S. 41, *Gay-street, Bath*  
 Bathurst, A. 2, *New-square, Lincoln's Inn, London*  
 Batten, John, *Aldon, Yeovil*  
 \*Beddoe, J., M.D., F.R.S. *Clifton*  
 30 Bennett, H. E. *Sparkford, Ilchester*  
 Bennett, Rev. J. A. *South Cadbury, Castle Cary*  
 Bennett, T. O. *Bruton*  
 Bennet, W. E. *Langport*

- Bergman, J. G. 6, *Powderham-terrace, Teignmouth*  
 35 Bernard, Rev. Canon, *Wells*  
 Besly, Mrs. *Sidbrook, Taunton*  
 Bewes, Rev. T. A. *Beaumont, Plymouth*  
 Bickham, Mrs. Geo. *Sampford Brett*  
 Bisset, M. F. *Bagborough*  
 40 Blake, Rice, *Claremont, Taunton*  
 Blake, W. *Bridge House, South Petherton*  
 Blathwayt, Rev. W. T., *Dyrham, Chipping Sodbury*  
 Boles, Rev. J. T. *Crowcombe*  
 Bond, G. H. *Wiveliscombe*  
 45 Bond, Rev. J. *Weston, Bath*  
 Bond, Thos. *Tyneham, Wareham*  
 Bourdillon, E. D. *Poundisford Park, Taunton*  
 Bouverie, H. H. P., *Brymore House, Bridgwater*  
 Bouverie, P. P. *Brymore House, Bridgwater*  
 50 Bowman, J. 9, *John-street, Bristol*  
 Boyd, R., M.D., *Southall Park, Middlesex*  
 Boyle, R. F. *Taunton*  
 Braikenridge, W. *Jerdone, Clevedon*  
 Braikenridge, Rev. G. *Weare, „*  
 55 Bramble, James Roger, *Sutherland House, Apsley-road, Clifton*  
 Bridport, Viscount, *Cricket Lodge, Chard*  
 Broderip, Edmund, *Cossington Manor, Bridgwater*  
 Brooke-Hunt, A. E. *Peers Court, Dursley*  
 Broome, C. E. *Elmhurst, Batheaston*  
 60 Brown, Rev. Frederick, *Fern Bank, Beckenham, Kent*  
 Browne, Rev. R. C. L. *North Curry*  
 Buckle, Rev. G. *Weston-super-Mare*  
 Bulleid, J. G. L. *Glastonbury*  
 Buller, Rev. W. E. *Chard*  
 65 Bullock, George, *East Coker*  
 Bullock, G. Troyte, *Sedgehill House, Shaftesbury*  
 Bumpstead, Rev. T. J. *Dinder, Wells*  
 Burney, Rev. A. D'Arbley, *Witham Friars, Bath*  
 Burt, G. R. *Ilminster*  
 70 Busfield, W. *Charlton, Radstock, Bath*  
 Bush, Clement, *Weston, Bath*  
 Bush, James, 4, *Great George-street, Park-street, Bristol*  
 Bush, John, 9, *Pembroke Row, Clifton, Bristol*  
 Buttanshaw, Rev. J. 22, *St. James's-square, Bath*

- 75 Cadbury, James, 13, *Paultons-square, Chelsea, London*  
 Caillard, C. F. D. *Wingfield House, Trowbridge*



- Caparn, Rev. W. B., *Taunton*  
 Carlingford, Right Hon. Lord, *The Priory, Chewton Mendip, Bath*  
 Chapman, Right Rev. Bishop, *Wootton Courtney*  
 80 Chapman, Arthur, *Kilkenny, Taunton*  
 Chapman, Wm., *Taunton*  
 Cheetham, F. H. *Monkton House, Taunton*  
 Cheston, W. *Taunton*  
 Chisholm-Batten, E. *Lincoln's Inn, London, and Thorn Falcon*  
 85 Church, Rev. C. M. *Wells*  
 Clark, G. T. *Dowlais House, Merthyr Tydvil*  
 Clark, Rev. W. R. *Taunton*  
 Clark, T. B. *Somerton*  
 Clark, W. S. *Street*  
 90 Clarke, A. A. *Wells*  
 Clarke, T. E. *Minehead*  
 Clerk, Rev. D. M. *Kingston Deveril, Wilts*  
 Clerk, E. H. *Westholme House, Pilton, Shepton Mallet*  
 Clifford, The Hon. and Right Rev. Bishop, *Bishop's House, Park-place, Clifton, Bristol*  
 95 Clifford, Lord, *Ugbrook Park, Chudleigh, Devon*  
 Clutterbuck, Rev. Henry, *Buckland Dinham, Frome*  
 Colby, Rev. R. *Almsford, Castle Cary*  
 Coleman, Rev. James, *Allerton, Axbridge*  
 Coles, Mrs. *Shepton Beauchamp*  
 100 Colfox, Thos. *Rax, Bridport*  
 Colfox, Wm.                     "  
 Collard, Charles Lukey, *Abbotsfield, Wiveliscombe*  
 Combe, R. T. *Earnskill*  
 Connor, R. *Taunton*  
 105 Coote, C. L. 9, *Queen's-parade, Bath*  
 Cork and Orrery, Earl of, *Marston, Frome*  
 Corner, H. *Flook-terrace, Taunton*  
 Cornish, Rev. Chas. E. *South Petherton*  
 Cornish, C. H. *Taunton*  
 110 Cornish, F. W. *Eton College*  
 Cossham, Handel, *Weston Park, Bath*  
 Court, A. *Taunton*  
 Cox, Mr. Serjeant, 36, *Russell-square, W.C., and Moat Mount, Highwood, Hendon, N.W.*  
 Crickitt, R.E.  
 115 Cross, Mrs., *Claverton Lodge, Bathwick-hill, Bath*  
 Crothers, Wallace B., *Chew Magna*  
 Culverwell, J. *Taunton*

- Faber, General, *Staplegrove*  
Farmer, Dr. Fredk. *Bridgewater*

- 160 Falconer, R. W., M.D. *Bath*  
 Filleul, Rev. P. V. M. *Biddisham Rectory, Axbridge*  
 Fisher, J. M. *Taunton*  
 Fitzgerald, Ven. Archdeacon, *South Brent*  
 Fletcher, Rev. K. *Brockley*
- 165 Foxlowe, A. *Langport*  
 Fox, C. H. *Wellington*  
 Fox, C. H., M.D. *Brislington*  
 Fox, E. F., 72, *Pembroke-road, Clifton*  
 Fox, George Smith, *Wellington*
- 170 Fox, Sylvanus, *Linden, „*  
 Foxcroft, E. T. D. *Widcombe House, Bath*  
 Franklin, H. *Taunton*  
 Freeman, E. A., D.C.L. *Somerleaze, Wells*
- Gale, Rev. I. S. *Kingston*
- 175 Gatehouse, Rev. Thos. J. *North Cheriton, Wincanton*  
 George, Rev. Philip Edward, 11, *Pulteney-street, Bath*  
 George, Wm. *Park-street, Bristol*  
 Gibney, Capt. R. D. *Winsley House, Bradford-on-Avon*  
 Giles, Captain, *Woodberry, Wells*
- 180 Gillo, R. *Bridgwater*  
 Glyn, Sir R. G., Bart. *Leweston, Sherborne*  
 Glyn, Douglas, *Sutton Montis, Castle Cary*  
 Godson, Rev. E. *Borough Bridge*  
 Goodden, Rev. C. C. *Montacute, Ilminster*
- 185 Goodford, Rev. C. O., D.D., Provost, *Eton*  
 Gooding, Miss Ann, *Kings-square, Bridgwater*  
 Govett, Clement, *Trinity, Taunton*  
 Grafton, Rev. A. W. *Highbridge*  
 Grenville, Ralph Neville, M.P. *Butleigh, Glastonbury*
- 190 Green, Emanuel, 116, *Piccadilly, London*  
 Greenhill, B. C. D. *Manor House, Puriton*  
 Grosvenor, Rev. Fredk. *Dunkerton, Bath*  
 Grote, Arthur, F.G.S., F.L.S. *Athenæum Club, and 20, York-street, Burlington Gardens, London, W.*
- Haddon, Chas. *Taunton*
- 195 Hall, Henry, 19, *Doughty-street, Mecklenburgh-square, London*  
 Hamilton, J. *Fyne Court, Broomfield*  
 Hammett, A. *Taunton*  
 Harbin, G. *Newton House, Yeovil*  
 Harford, Wm. H. *Lawrence Weston, near Bristol*
- 200 Harrison, Rev. O. S. *Thorn Falcon*  
 Havilland, General John de, *Langford Court, Wellington*

- Heathcote, Rev. S. *Williton*  
 Heaven, Henry, 9, *Bridge-street, Blackfriars, London, E.C.*  
 Hellard, W. B. *Taunton*  
 205 Helyar, W. H. *Coker Court, Yeovil*  
 Hervey, The Right Rev. Lord Arthur, Bishop of Bath and Wells, *Palace, Wells*  
 Hervey, Rev. S. H. W. *Wedmore*  
 Harvey, John, jun., *Denmark-street, Clifton*  
 Hewett, Rev. J. P. *Norton Fitzwarren*  
 210 Hill, Rev. R. *Timsbury, Bath*  
 Hill, Miss, *Ashby Lodge, Carlton-road, Putney, London*  
 Hill, William John, *Langport*  
 Hippisley, Edwin, *Wells*  
 Hippisley, John, jun. *Ston Easton, Bath*  
 215 Hobhouse, H. *Hadsden House, Castle Cary*  
 Hodges, Miss Caroline, *Haines-hill, Taunton*  
 Hood, Sir A. A., Bart. *St. Audries*  
 Hooper, James, *Thorne, Yeovil*  
 Horner, J. F. Fortescue, *Mells*  
 220 Hoskins, T. *Haselbury*  
 Hoskins, H. W. *Moorlands, Crewkerne*  
 Howes, Rev. J. G. *Exford*  
 Hunt, Mrs. Ezra, 18, *Belmont, Bath*  
 Hunt, Rev. W. *Congresbury, Bristol*  
 225 Hunt, Rev. W. *Weston-super-Mare*  
 Hutchings, H. *Sandford Orcas, Sherborne*  
 Huyshe, Wentworth, 6, *Pelham-place, London, S.W.*  
 Hylton, Lord, *Ammerdown Park, Radstock, Bath*  
  
 Isaacs, G. *Haines-hill, Taunton*  
  
 230 Jacobs, M. *Taunton*  
 James, Sir Henry, M.P., 2, *New-court, Temple, London*  
 Jefferies, C. E. *Redcliffe-street, Bristol*  
 Jefferies, J. E. *Yeo-bank, Congresbury*  
 Jermyn, Right Rev. Hugh W., Bishop of Brechin  
 235 Johnston, Jno. 9, *Park-street, Bath*  
 Johnson, Wm.  
 Johnson, Admiral, *Haines-hill, Taunton*  
 Jones, J. E.  
 Jones, W. A. 1, *Leicester-place, Victoria Park, Bristol*  
  
 240 Kelly, W. M., M.D. *Taunton*  
 Kemmis, Mrs. *Croham Hurst, Croydon, Surrey*  
 King, H. D. *Taunton*

- King, Richard J. *The Limes, Crediton, Devon*  
 Kerslake, Thos. 14, *West Park, Bristol*
- 245 Kinglake, J. H., M.D. *Taunton*  
 Kinglake, R. A.  
 Kinglake, Rev. F. C. *West Monkton*  
 Knowles, C. *Bridgwater*  
 Knyfton, T. T. *Uphill*
- 250 Lamplugh, Rev. David, *Langport*  
 Lamport, Chas. *Bindon House, Wellington*  
 Lance, Chas. E. *Stoke Court, Taunton*  
 Lance, Rev. J. E. *Buckland St. Mary*  
 Lance, Rev. W. H. *Thurlbeer*
- 255 Lang, Robert, *Langford Lodge, Clifton, Bristol*  
 Langton, W. Stephen Gore, *Newton House, Bath*  
 Langworthy, V. Upton, *Ilminster*  
 Leigh, Henry, 3, *Plowden-buildings, Temple, London*  
 Lethbridge, Sir W. A., Bart. *Sandhill Park, Taunton*
- 260 Lewis, Wm. 12, *Northgate-street, Bath*  
 Liddon, Wm. *Taunton*  
 Long, W. *West Hay, Wrington, Bristol*  
 Long, Capt. *Congresbury,*  
 Lovelace, The Earl of, *Ashley Combe, Porlock*
- 265 Luttrell, G. F. *Dunster Castle*  
 Lyon, Rev. W. H. *Sherborne*  
 Lysaght, John, *Springfort, Stoke Bishop, Bristol*  
 Lyte, H. Maxwell, 18, *Albermarle-street, London*
- Macleay, J. R. *Tetton, Taunton*
- 270 Major, Charles, *Westfield House, Bridgwater*  
 Major, H. J. *East Croft, Bridgwater*  
 Malet, Arthur, *Ashcott, Bridgwater*  
 Malet, Octavius W. *Torquay*  
 Manley, H. F. *Upcott, Bishops Hull*
- 275 Mapleton, Rev. H. M. *Badgworth, Weston-super-Mare*  
 Marriott-Dodington, T. *Combe House, Dulverton*  
 Marshall, G. W., LL.D., 60, *Onslow Gardens, Queen's Gate, London, S.W.*  
 Marshall, J. *Belmont, Taunton*  
 Marshall, Wilfrid Geo. *Belmont, Taunton*
- 280 Marwood, J. B. 3, *Grove-terrace, Hanwell, Middlesex*  
 Master, Rev. G. S. *West Deane, Wilts*  
 Mathew, Rev. M. A. *Bishops Lydeard*  
 May, Frederick, *Alcombe, Dunster*  
 Maynard, Alfred, *Taunton*



- 285 Maynard, Walter, *Taunton*  
 Meade, Rev. De Courcy, *North Barrow, Castle Cary*  
 Meade, Rev. R. J. *Castle Cary*  
 Meade-King, R. K. *Walford, Taunton*  
 Meade-King, Walter,                     "
- 290 Medlycott, Sir. W. C., Bart. *Venn House, Milborne Port*  
 Medley, Rev. J. B. *Mells, Frome*  
 Messiter, Henry, *Wincanton*  
 Meyler, T. *Piercefield, Taunton*  
 Mildmay, Capt. St. John H., R.N., *Hazelgrove, Bath*
- 295 Milsom, Chas. 69, *Pulteney-street, Bath*  
 Mitchell, W.S., LL.B., F.G.S.  
 Mitchell, G. W. *Taunton*  
 Moore, J. F., *West Coker, Yeovil*.  
 Moore, C. *Cambridge-place, Bath*
- 300 Moor, Rev. R. W. *Welton Lodge, Prior Park-road, Bath*  
 Moorland, John, *Glastonbury*  
 Mordle, Henry, *Norton Fitzwarren*  
 Moss, Rev. J. J. *East Lydford*  
 Moysey, H. G. *Bathealton Court*
- 305 Munckton, W. W. *Curry Rivel*  
 Müller, W. *Bruton*  
 Munro, Lieut.-General, C.B. *Montys Court, Taunton*  
 Murch, Jerom, *Cranwells, Bath*
- Naish, W. B. *Ston Easton*
- 310 Neale, W. *Kingsdon, Somerton*  
 Neville, Rev. W. F. *Butleigh*  
 Newell, Rev. F. C. *Chiselborough*  
 Newman, Rev. W. A. *Hatch Beauchamp*  
 Newnham, Capt. N. J. *Blagdon Court, Bristol*
- 315 Newton, F. W. *Barton Grange, Taunton*  
 Nicholetts, J. T. *Brent Knoll, Highbridge*  
 Norris, Hugh, *South Petherton*  
 Nutt, Rev. C. H. *East Harptree*
- Odgers, Rev. J. E. 11, *Bertram-road, Sefton Park, Liverpool*
- 320 Odgers, Rev. W. J. *Saville House, Weston, Bath*  
 Ommanney, Rev. G. D. W. *Draycot, Weston-super-Mare*  
 O'Connor, Rev. H. K. *Locking,*                     "  
 O'Donoghue, Henry O'Brien, *Long Ashton*
- Paget, R. H., M.P. *Cranmore Hall, Shepton Mallet*
- 325 Paine, Jas. *Springfield, West Monkton*  
 Parfitt, Right Rev. Dr. *Midford, Bath*

- Parish, Rev. C. P. *Ashfield, Taunton*  
 Parsons, F. C. J. *Bridgwater*  
 Parsons, H. F., M.D. *Goole, Yorkshire*  
 330 Parsons, James, *The Lynch, Somerton*  
 Paul, W. Bond, *Langport*  
 Payne, Mrs. *Vivary Lodge, Taunton*  
 Pearse, Rev. Beauchamp K. *The Old Rectory, Ascott, Staines*  
 Pearson, Rev. C. B. 2, *Catherine-place, Bath*  
 335 Penny, Rev. C. *West Coker, Yeovil*  
 Penny, T. *Taunton*  
 Perceval, Capt. *Severn House, Henbury, Bristol*  
 Philpott, Rev. R. S. *Chewton Mendip*  
 Pigot, Rev. J. C. *Priory Villa, Taunton*  
 340 Pinchard, W. P. *Taunton*  
 Pinchard, J. H. B. „  
 Pinney, W. *Somerton Erleigh*  
 Plowman, T. *North Curry*  
 Poole, J. R. *Cannington*  
 345 Pooley, C. *Weston-super-Mare*  
 Pope, Dr. *Glastonbury*  
 \*Portman, Viscount, *Bryanstone House, Dorset*  
 Portman, Rev. F. B. *Staple Fitzpaine*  
 Portman, The Hon. W. H. B. *Durweston, Blandford, Dorset*  
 350 Powell, Thomas, *Independent College, Taunton*  
 Pranker, John, *Langport*  
 Pranker, P. D. *The Knoll, Sneyd Park, Bristol*  
 Pring, J. H., M.D. *Taunton*  
 Prior, R. C. A., M.D. *Halse*  
 355 Pulman, G. P. R. *Crewkerne*  
 Pyne, Rev. W. *Charlton, Somerton*  
  
 \*Ramsden, Sir John Wm., Bart., 6, *Upper Brook-street, London, and Byram, Yorkshire*  
 Randall, Ven. Archdeacon, *St. Mary Redcliffe, Bristol*  
 Randell, Rev. Thomas, *Taunton*  
 360 Redfern, Rev. W. T. „  
 Reed, Rev. W. *Fullands, „*  
 Reeves, A. „  
 Reynolds, Vincent J. *Canons Grove, Taunton*  
 Robertson, Henry, *Over Stowey*  
 365 Robinson, Walter, 7, *Furnival's Inn, Holborn, London*  
 Rogers, T. E. *Yarlington House, Wincanton*  
 Rose, Rev. W. F. *Worle, Weston-super-Mare*  
 Rossiter, Mrs. *Silvermead, Taunton*  
 Rossiter, G. F., M.B., *Weston-super-Mare*

- 370 Rowcliffe, C. E. *Stogumber*  
 Rowe, J. *Taunton*  
 Rowe, Rev. J. *Long Load, Langport*  
 Ruegg, Lewis H. *Sherborne, Dorset*  
 Ruel, Major Herbert
- 375 Rutter, John, *Ilminster*
- Sainsbury, Capt. *Bathford, Bath*  
 Salmon, Rev. E. A. *Martock*  
 Sampson, Thomas, *Houndstone House, Yeovil*  
 Samson, H. C. *Taunton*
- 380 Samuelson, H. B., M.P. *Hazeltown, Ilchester*  
 Sandford, G. W. *Springfield Villa, Lansdown, Bath*  
 Sanford, W. A. *Nynehead Court*  
 Sayce, Rev. A. B. *Westbury-on-Trym*  
 Searth, Rev. H. M. *Wrington, Bristol*
- 385 Scott, Rev. J. P. *Staplegrove*  
 Scott, Walter, *Milligan Hall, Bishops Hull*  
 Scratchley, Rev. C. J. *Lydeard St. Lawrence*  
 Sears, R. H. *Priory House, Taunton*  
 Seller, Rev. H. C. *Trull*
- 390 Serel, Thomas, *Wells*  
 Seymour, Alfred, *Knoyle, Wilts*  
 Sheldon, Thomas, *Clevedon*  
 Shelmerdine, T.  
 Shepherd, J. W. *Ilminster*
- 395 Shepherd, Rev. Fredk. *Stoke-sub-Hamdon*  
 Shepherd, Jabez, *Taunton*  
 Shout, R. H. *Tottenham, London*  
 Shum, F., 11, *Laura-place, Bath*  
 Simmons, C. J. *Lower Langford, Bristol*
- 400 Skrine, H. D. *Warleigh Manor, Bath*  
 Slade, Wyndham, *Wey House, Taunton*  
 Sloper, E. *Taunton*  
 Smith, Lady, *Somerton*  
 Smith, Cecil, *Bishops Lydeard*
- 405 Smith, Clement, *Crescent, Taunton*  
 Smith, Rev. Fredk. J.                    "  
 Smith, Rev. Gilbert E. *Barton St. David*  
 Smith, J. H. *Taunton*  
 Smith, Richard, *Bridgwater*
- 410 Solly, Miss L. *Clifton*  
 Somers, B. E. *Mendip Lodge, Langford, Bristol*  
 Somerville, A. *Dinder, Wells*  
 Sotheby, Rev. T. H. *Langford Budville*

- Sparks, William, *Crewkerne*  
 415 Sparks, W. B. „  
 Speke, W. *Jordans, near Ilminster*  
 Spence, Robert, *Mount Villa, Wembdon, Bridgwater*  
 Spencer, J. H. *Corfe, Taunton*  
 Spiller, H. *Taunton*  
 420 Stanley, E. J. *Quantock Lodge, Bridgwater*  
 Stanton, Rev. J. J. *Tokenham Rectory, Wotton Bassett*  
 St. Aubyn, Colonel, 11, *Great Bedford-street, Bath*  
 Steevens, A. *Taunton*  
 Stephenson, Rev. J. H. *Lympsham*  
 425 Stoaate, Wm. *Wembdon, Bridgwater*  
 Strachey, Sir E., Bart. *Sutton Court, Pensford, Bristol*  
 Stradling, W. J. L. *Chilton-super-Polden*  
 Stuart, A. T. B. *Mellifont Abbey, Wookey, Wells*  
 Stubbs, Joseph, *Grammar School, Langport*  
 430 Stuckey, V. *Langport*  
 Surrage, J. L. 2, *Saville-place, Clifton, Bristol*  
 Surtees, W. Edward, *Tainfield, Taunton*  
 Swayne, W. T. *Glastonbury*  
 Symes, Rev. R. *Cleeve, Bristol*  
 435 Talbot de Malahide, Lord, *Evercreech, Shepton Mallet*  
 Tagart, W. H. *Parkfield, Weston, Bath*  
 Taplin, T. K. *Mount House, Milverton*  
 Taunton, Lady, *Eaton-place, London*  
 Tawney, E. B. 16, *Royal York-crescent, Clifton, Bristol*  
 440 Taylor, Peter, *Mountlands, Taunton*  
 Taylor, Thos. *Taunton*  
 Terry, Geo. *Mells, Frome*  
 Thomas, C. J. *Drayton Lodge, Redland, Bristol*  
 Thompson, E. S. *Christ's College, Cambridge*  
 445 Thompson, Geo. C. 6, *Cathcart Hill, Junction-road, London, N.*  
 Thring, Rev. Godfrey, *Alford, Castle Cary*  
 Thring, Theodore, „ „  
 Tinley, G. A. *Watts House, Bishops Lydeard*  
 Todd, Lt.-Col. *Keynston Lodge, Blandford*  
 450 Tomkins, Rev. H. G. *Weston-super-Mare*  
 Tomkins, Rev. W. S. „  
 Trask, Charles, *Norton, Ilminster*  
 Trevelyan, Sir C. E., Bart., K.C.B., 8, *Grosvenor-crescent, Belgrave-square, London, S.W.*  
 Trevelyan, Arthur, *Tyneholm, Tranent, N.B.*  
 455 Trevelyan, Miss, *Nettlecombe Court*  
 Trotman, W. *Taunton*

- Trower, Miss, *Gotton House, Taunton*  
 Turner, C. J. *Staplegrove*  
 Turner, Henry G. „  
 460 Turner, James, *Stoke-sub-Hamdon*  
 Tyack, S. C.  
 Tylor, Edw. Burnett, D.C.L., LL.D., F.R.S., *Linden, Wellington*  
 Tynte, Col. Kemeys, *Halswell, Bridgwater*  
 Tynte, St. David Kemeys, *Leversdown, Bridgwater*  
 465 Tyndale, J. W. Warre, *Perridge House, Shepton Mallet*  
 Tyrwhitt, Capt. Philip, *Wyke, Gillingham, Dorset*  
 Vaughan-Lee, V. H., M.P., *Dillington House, Ilminster*  
 Wade, C. *Banwell*  
 Wade, E. F. *Axbridge*  
 470 Walker, W. C. *Shepton Mallet*  
 Waldron, Clement, *Llandaff, S. Wales*  
 Walters, R. *Stoke-sub-Hamdon*  
 Walters, G. *Frome*  
 Walton, T. Todd, *Maperton House, Wincanton*  
 475 Ward, Rev. J. W. *Ruishton*  
 Warren, J. F. H. *Langport*  
 Warren, H. F. F. „  
 Warren, Rev. J. *Bawdrip*  
 Weatherley, Christopher, 39, *High-street, Wapping, London, E.*  
 480 Welch, C. *Minehead*  
 Welman, C. N. *Norton Manor*  
 Welman, C. C. *Fitzroy, Taunton*  
 Welsh, W. I. *Wells*  
 Westlake, W. H. *Taunton*  
 485 White, C. F., 42, *Windsor-road, Ealing, London, W.*  
 White, F. *Wellington*  
 Wilkinson, Rev. J. A. *Forest Lodge, Penselwood*  
 White, Rev. F. W. *Crowle, Doncaster*  
 White, H. C. *Upland Villa, Wembdon, Bridgwater*  
 490 Whitfield, Rev. E. *Ilminster*  
 Williams, Rev. Wadham Pigott, *Bishops Hull*  
 Winter, J. A. *Maunsell House, Taunton*  
 Winterbotham, W. L., M.B. *Bridgwater*  
 Winwood, Rev. H. H. 11, *Cavendish-crescent, Bath*  
 495 Wise, Rev. W. J.  
 Wood, Rev. J. 10, *Burlington-street, Bath*  
 Wood, Alexander, *The Laurels, Horsham, Sussex*  
 Woodforde, Rev. A. J., *Ansford, Castle Cary*



- Woodforde, F. H., M.D. *Amberd House, Taunton*  
500 Woodley, W. A. *Taunton*  
Wotton, E. „  
Yatman, Rev. J. A. *Winscombe, Weston-super-Mare*
- 

Members are requested to inform either of the Secretaries of any errors or omissions in the above list ; they are also requested to authorise their Bankers to pay their subscriptions annually to Stuckey's Banking Company, Taunton ; or to either of their branches ; or their respective London Agents, on account of the Treasurer.

(Continued from Vol. xxiii.)

## BATHONIA.

No. 20.

1425.

Computus Roberti Phelpys et Johannes Bode procuratores bonorum ecclesie parochialis Sancti Michaelis extra portam boriamalem ibidem a festo xj<sup>m</sup> milia virginum A<sup>o</sup> regni regis Henrici sexti tercio usque idem festum A<sup>o</sup> dicti regis quarto et ab unde usque ad festum nativitatis Christi.

## RECEPTA.

In primis dicti procuratores receperunt de arreragiis compoti prioris anni lv<sup>s</sup> vj<sup>d</sup> ut patet in pede ejusdem.

Item receperunt de pecuniis collectis ad trabem et ad cereum paschalem vij<sup>s</sup> ix<sup>d</sup> ob.

Item receperunt de incremento denariorum collectorum ad librum processionalem emendum v<sup>s</sup> j<sup>d</sup> ob.

Item receperunt de incremento unius servisie\* facto xxiiij<sup>s</sup>

Item receperunt de sacris candelis diversis diebus per totum tempus predictum ij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup>

Item receperunt de denariis Sancti Petri vij<sup>d</sup>

Item receperunt de Ricardo Hendeman pro fine domus sue iiij<sup>li</sup> vj<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup> in parte solucionis x marcarum

Item pro viride vendito Johanni Bryan iiij<sup>d</sup>

Item receperunt ex legacione Philippi Towkere ad edificium nove capelle xij<sup>d</sup>

Item receperunt xxvj<sup>s</sup> x<sup>d</sup> de denariis collectis ad nova vestimenta.

Summa ix<sup>li</sup> x<sup>s</sup> j<sup>d</sup>

## REDDITUS ASSISE CUM INCREMENTO.

In primis dicti procuratores receperunt de redditu assise ut patet per rentale ix<sup>li</sup> xv<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup>

Item de incremento redditus tenementi Johannis Whytefeld in Walcote-strete xvj<sup>d</sup>

Summa ix<sup>li</sup> xvij<sup>s</sup>

• Summa totalis receptarum et reddituum xix<sup>li</sup> vij<sup>s</sup> j<sup>d</sup>

\* Brewing : the word intended is *cerevisie*.

## RESOLUCIO ET ALLOCACIO REDDITUS.

In primis dicti procuratores petunt Allocacionem de xxiiij<sup>d</sup> ob., solutis ballivo pro langabulo.

Item de iij<sup>s</sup> solutis procuratori communitatis Bathonie.

Item de ii<sup>s</sup> vij<sup>d</sup> solutis Magistro Sancti Johannis Baptiste de Bathonie.

Item de xij<sup>d</sup> solutis Cofferariis Civitatis Bathonie.

Item de xx<sup>d</sup> solutis abbati Sancti Augustini Bristollie pro tenemento Johannis Balle in Walcote-strete.

Item de iiij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup> solutis Rectori ecclesie pro tenemento Rogeri Towkere.

Item de ij<sup>s</sup> de defectu redditus tenementi quondam Ricardi Forstere juxta Alfordeland.

Summa xvj<sup>s</sup> vij<sup>d</sup> ob.

## ALLOCACIO ANNIVERSARIARUM CUM STIPENDIIS.

Item dicti procuratores petunt Allocacionem de xxxix<sup>s</sup> v<sup>d</sup> pro anniversiis per annum ut patet per Rotulum, et illuminatione lampadis.

Summa xxxix<sup>s</sup> v<sup>d</sup>

## EXPENSE.

Item petunt allocacionem de v<sup>d</sup> pro potacione compoti prioris Anni.

Item de xij<sup>s</sup> vj<sup>d</sup> pro cera empta pro toto anno.

Item de xviii<sup>d</sup> pro factura ejusdem cere erga festum natalis Christi.

Item de iiij<sup>s</sup> ix<sup>d</sup> pro nova alba empta.

Item de j<sup>d</sup> pro imposicione parure ejusdem.

Item pro factura ejusdem albe viij<sup>d</sup>

Item de v<sup>d</sup> pro factura suppellicii pro clerico.

Item de v<sup>d</sup> pro j bawdre pro magna campana.

Item de vj<sup>d</sup> viij<sup>d</sup> solutis majori.

Item de j<sup>d</sup> ob. pro hemmyng' vestis sepulcri.

Item de j<sup>d</sup> pro paryng aree ecclesie in prima posicionem sedium.

Item de viij<sup>d</sup> solutis ij hominibus moventibus Altare Sancte Marie.

Item de iiij<sup>d</sup> pro equo conducto ad querendum lathonium.

Item de viij<sup>d</sup> pro reparacione vestimentorum ecclesie.

Item pro factura cere erga festum pasche xiiij<sup>d</sup> ob.

- Item de xv<sup>s</sup> pro deliberacione carte Alicie Roche.  
 Item de j<sup>d</sup> pro portacione vexilli.  
 Item de iiij<sup>s</sup> pro j alba noviter empta.  
 Item de vij<sup>d</sup> factura ejusdem Albe.  
 Item de consecratione altaris Sancte Marie ad suffraganeum\*  
 vij<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup>  
 Item de ij<sup>d</sup> pro vino empto ad idem officium.  
 Item de xij<sup>d</sup> pro j linthiamine combusto† ibidem.  
 Item pro smygmate ad lavandum nova vestimenta ij<sup>d</sup>  
 Item de xx<sup>d</sup> pro iiij virgis cilicivis ad ij altaria.  
 Item de xx<sup>d</sup> pro evacuacione de Rubyll erga crucem palmarum.  
 Item de xv<sup>d</sup> solutis Johanni Damott pro jactura zabli et rudyng  
 coram eadem cruce.  
 Item de viij<sup>d</sup> solutis Willmo Colbrond et famulo Roberti Phelpys  
 ij diebus pro rudyng ante eandem crucem et ablacione lapidum.  
 Item de ij<sup>d</sup> pro potacione inter eosdem laborantes diversis vicibus.  
 Item de iiij<sup>d</sup> pro rudyng coram tenemento Willelmi Osborne.  
 Item de vj<sup>d</sup> pro pavimento reparato coram dicto tenemento.  
 Item de vj<sup>d</sup> pro breking ejusdem pavimenti et portacione  
 zabuli ad idem per j diem et dimidium.  
 Item pro ablacione de rubyll coram campanile iiij<sup>d</sup>  
 Item de ij<sup>d</sup> pro ij Zonis pro vestimentis ecclesie.  
 Item de ij<sup>s</sup> v<sup>d</sup> pro oleo pro totum annum.  
 Item de vj<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup> solutis lathomo una vice videlicet in vigilia  
 pentecosten.  
 Item alia vice videlicet in vigilia omnium sanctorum xxvj<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup>  
 eidem lathomo.  
 Item de viij<sup>d</sup> pro equo conducto et homine querente lathomum et  
 instrumenta ejus ad lapifodium.  
 Item de j<sup>d</sup> ad posicionem primi lapidis fundamenti capelle.  
 Item de ij<sup>d</sup> pro conclusione ij arcuum in potacione.  
 Item de xij<sup>s</sup> ij<sup>d</sup> pro calce empto ad totum edificium capelle  
 sancte Marie.  
 Item de iiij<sup>d</sup> pro crebro‡ empto ad idem opus.

\* As a temporary or supplemental altar until the new Lady Chapel was built, Suffraganea ecclesia is an Oratory: or *ad suffraganeum* may be to the *suffragan Bishop* officiating.

† Apparently burnt accidentally.

‡ Probably *cribro*, a sieve.

Item de j<sup>d</sup> pro hominibus portantibus ij ligna pro scaffold.

Item de iiij<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup> pro rudyng veterorum murorum cancelli et capelle.

Item de xvj<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup> pro ferramento nove fenestre in capella.

Item de vij<sup>s</sup> pro cariagio lapidum.

Item de ij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup> ob. pro victualibus cariancium diversis vicibus.

Item de ij<sup>d</sup> pro seroticis\* solutis lathomo in conclusione ij arcuum.

Item de xviij<sup>d</sup> ob. pro victualibus hominibus laborantibus ad lapifodum in breking et rudyng.

Item de iiij<sup>s</sup> pro lapidibus emptis de preposito de Clavertone.

Item de xxij<sup>d</sup> solutis homini servienti lathomo et carpentario per ebdomadam.

Item de j<sup>d</sup> pro potacione eorumdem.

Item de vj<sup>d</sup> solutis Rogere Cartere pro meremio.

Item de iiij<sup>d</sup> solutis pro j hurdyl consumpta et j reffter.

Item de iiij<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup> pro crastis† ad capellam.

Item de viij<sup>d</sup> pro equo conducto ad querendum tegulatorem.

Item de iiij<sup>s</sup> vj<sup>d</sup> pro novo hostio capelle et factura ejusdem.

Item de ij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup> pro clavis et cardinibus et j stapyll et hamo ad idem hostium et pro nodys tecti. Item de ij<sup>d</sup> solutis in potacione carpentarii plumbarii et tegulatoris.

Item de ij<sup>d</sup> pro seroticis pro carpentario.

Item de xx<sup>d</sup> solutis carpentario pro ij copulis ad vetus tectum.

Item de v<sup>d</sup> solutis Johannis Whyting ad subportandum tectum cancelli.

Item de ij<sup>d</sup> in principio convencionis carpentarii et vitriatoris.

Item de vj<sup>d</sup> solutis pro 1. copule resters ad le wyndbarge‡ novelle capelle.

Item de ij<sup>s</sup> j<sup>d</sup> ad querendum ij copulas pro antiquo arcu a Locok.§

Item de x<sup>d</sup> solutis Johanni Whytyng et filiis ejus ad ponendum les gutters.

Item de j<sup>d</sup> pro potacione eorumdem.

Item de vj<sup>d</sup> ob. pro clavis ad idem opus.

\* Over-hours of labour.

† Ridge tiles.

‡ "*Wind-beam*—a large timber arch in the frame-work of a trussed roof : serving to obviate the effects of a high wind upon the steep external sides of the roof."—Britton's *Archit. Dictionary*.

§ Probably the name of the vendor.



Item vij<sup>d</sup> ob. pro clavis emptis ad firmandum tabulum super lez gutters et cynterne.\*

Item de xx<sup>d</sup> pro x tabulis ad custodiendum plumbum in lez gutters.

Item de ij<sup>d</sup> solutis Johanni Whytyng pro factura de la cynterne.

Item de xxxvj<sup>s</sup> vj<sup>d</sup> solutis plumbario pro novo plumbo ad lez gutters.

Item de ij<sup>s</sup> homini servienti plumbario, carpentario et Thome Sparke et cariagio fimi coram tenemento Johannis Hunte et Thome Lityltone.

Item pro mille tegulis† ad novam capellam xiiij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup>

Item pro victualibus cariancium iiij<sup>d</sup>

Item de xvij<sup>d</sup> pro lathnayle ad eandem capellam.

Item de xx<sup>s</sup> x<sup>d</sup> solutis tegulatori.

Item de j<sup>d</sup> in potacione ejusdem.

Item de v<sup>s</sup> ij<sup>d</sup> solutis Thome Sprake pro suo labore xij diebus et seroticis.

Item de ij<sup>s</sup> solutis servienti eidem Thome.

Item de ij<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup> solutis pro equo ad cariaudum rubyll, et ij hominibus cariantibus cum equo iij diebus et dimidio.

Item de ij<sup>s</sup> vj<sup>d</sup> pro stramine empto ad domum Johannis Hunte et Thome Lytiltone.

Item de ij<sup>s</sup> ij<sup>d</sup> solutis stipulatori et potacione.

Item de xij<sup>d</sup> pro spikys ad idem opus.

Item de vj<sup>d</sup> pro helme ad idem opus.

Item de xvj<sup>d</sup> pro lectura straminis et servicio stipulatoris.

Item de iiij<sup>d</sup> pro cariagio ejusdem straminis.

Item de iiij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup> pro hostio domus Johannis Stony et reparacione de j stayre in domo Johannis Whytefeld et reparacione fenestre in domo Thome Burletone.

Item de x<sup>d</sup> pro clavis ad idem opus.

Item de iiij<sup>s</sup> ij<sup>d</sup> pro tabulis emptis ad domum Ricardi Gylham.

Item de xij<sup>d</sup> solutis carpinterio operanti ibidem.

Item de v<sup>d</sup> pro clavis ad idem opus.

\* I cannot find this word ; possibly *cysterne*, *cisterne*.

† Five years later occurs x<sup>s</sup> pro j mille tegularum emptis ad domum Js. Stoby, but possibly those for the Chapel were of a better quality.

- Item de vj<sup>d</sup> solutis lathomo reparanti le wyndebarge in domo  
Johannis Parkyn.
- Item de ij<sup>s</sup> vj<sup>d</sup> pro stramine empto ad domum Johannis Parkyn  
et Thome Burletone.
- Item de xij<sup>d</sup> pro spykys et helme ad idem.
- Item de xv<sup>d</sup> solutis stipulatori pro eodem.
- Item de xxj<sup>d</sup> pro lectura straminis servicio stipulatori ibidem.
- Item de viij<sup>d</sup> solutis carpenterio facienti fenestram in domo  
Thome Lytylton.
- Item de ij<sup>d</sup> pro meremio ad eandem fenestram.
- Item de j lynterne ad eandem domum ij<sup>d</sup>
- Item de iij<sup>s</sup> pro factura de j Cuyne\* et reparatione de j chanell  
ibidem.
- Item de viij<sup>d</sup> pro cariagio lapidum.
- Item de viij<sup>d</sup> pro cariagio zabuli ad idem opus.
- Item de ij<sup>s</sup> iij<sup>d</sup> solutis lathomo facienti murum in domo Johannis  
Orcharde, et factura de m . . . † tere ibidem.
- Item de xv<sup>d</sup> pro vestigiis et reparatione muri et tabulis ad  
fenestram schope in domo Thome Burletone.
- Item de j<sup>d</sup> ad parvum feretrum pro tabulis.
- Item de xx<sup>d</sup> pro stramine empto et helme ad domum Johannis  
Orchardi.
- Item de x [ ] solutis stipulatori ibidem.
- Item de viij<sup>d</sup> solutis servienti stipulatoris.
- Item de vj<sup>d</sup> pro lectura ejusdem straminis.
- Item de iij<sup>d</sup> pro spykys ibidem.
- Item de iij<sup>d</sup> pro cariagio ejusdem straminis.
- Item de ij<sup>d</sup> pro cariagio zabuli ad ecclesiam et domum Johannis  
Orchard.
- Item xij<sup>d</sup> pro factura unius stanni‡ in domo Johannis Orchard et  
aliorum necessariorum.
- Item de ix<sup>d</sup> pro tabulis emptis ad reparandum hostium Johannis  
Hunte et factura ejusdem et factura de j hawderne§ in domo  
Johannis Orchard.
- Item de xij<sup>d</sup> pro lotura vestimentorum per annum.

\* Quoin.

‡ A stall.

† Original torn.

§ Query.

Item de xij<sup>d</sup> pro scriptura compoti.

Item pro pergameno et papiro iij<sup>d</sup>

Item de xlvj<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup> solutis pro novis vestimentis de novo emptis.

Summa xvij<sup>li</sup> vij<sup>s</sup> x<sup>d</sup>

Summa totalis allocacionum et expensarum xx<sup>li</sup> iij<sup>s</sup> ix<sup>d</sup> ob.

Et sic computatis computandis et allocatis allocandis, ecclesia et parochia debent procuratoribus predictis in claro xvj<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup> ob.

Et ultra hoc parochiani allocaverunt infra scripto Roberto pro suo labore pro anno preterito x<sup>s</sup>. Et dictus Robertus electus est in procuratorem, et idem Robertus portabit bursam et habet consortem Johannem Goode pro anno futuro. Et dictus Robertus tenetur solvere ij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup> ob. ad ecclesiam de denariis collectis ad lapifodium inter parochianos, et oneratur cum omnibus ornamentis Ecclesie ac etiam dictus Robertus oneratur cum iij<sup>li</sup> et vj<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup> de fine domus Ricardi Herdeman.

## No. 21.

### BATHONIA.

1427.

Compotus Thome Abell et Roberti Phelypps Procuratores Ecclesie Parochialis Sancti Michaelis extra portam borialem Civitatis Bathonie factus a festo Sancti Michaelis Anno regno regis Henrici Sexti post conquestum quinto usque festum Sancti Michaelis, anno dicti domini regis sexto.

### ARRERAGIA.

Et receperunt iij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup> de legacione Edithe nuper uxoris Roberti Walley prout patet in pede compoti predicti.

Summa iij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup>

### REDDITUS.

Item iidem procuratores respondent ix<sup>li</sup> xv<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup> de toto redditu assise ibidem per totum annum ut patet per Rentale procuratorum.

Summa ix<sup>li</sup> xv<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup>

### RECEPTA IN DENARIIS.

Idem procuratores respondent de xj<sup>d</sup> ob. pro j busello novarum fabarum vendito.

Et respondent vj<sup>d</sup> pro dimidio busello fabarum vendito alià vice.

Et respondent v<sup>d</sup> pro veteris cordis campanarum venditis. Et receperunt xij<sup>d</sup> pro Teseles\* venditis. Et respondent iiij<sup>d</sup> pro tabulis venditis. Et respondent iij<sup>d</sup> pro classico Roberti Walssh. Et respondent vij<sup>d</sup> q<sup>a</sup> de denariis Sancti Petri. Et respondent xxij<sup>d</sup> ob. pro candela dominicali benedicta de parochianis ibidem. Et respondent . . . † de fine tenementi Johannis Batyn.

Et respondent de vij<sup>s</sup> x<sup>d</sup> de denariis collectis ad festum Pasche tam pro lumine ad trabem erga festum Natalis Domini quam ad cereum Paschale erga festum Pasche.

Summa xiijs viij<sup>d</sup> q<sup>a</sup>

#### INCREMENTUM REDDITUS.

Idem procuratores respondent xij<sup>d</sup> de incremento redditus tenementi Roberti Atte Walle, et respondent xvij<sup>d</sup> de redditu tenementi nuper Johannis Whytfeld.

Summa ijs iiij<sup>d</sup> q<sup>a</sup>

Summa totalis receptarum x<sup>li</sup> xv<sup>s</sup> q<sup>a</sup>

#### DEFECTUS REDDITUS.

Item ijdem procuratores petunt se Allocari de iiij<sup>s</sup> pro defectu redditus Gardini nuper Rogeri Hobbes quod Johannes Bede modi tenet quia vacat per annum.

Summa iiij<sup>s</sup>

#### RESOLUCIO.

Item ijdem procuratores petunt allocacionem de xxiiij<sup>d</sup> ob. solutis domino Episcopo de langabulo pro omnibus tenementis ejusdem Ecclesie. Et de ijs vij<sup>d</sup> solutis Magistro hospitalis Sancti Johannis Baptiste per annum. Et de xx<sup>d</sup> solutis Abbati Sancti Augustini Bristollie pro tenemento Johannis Balle in Walcote Strete. Et de xij<sup>d</sup> solutis Cofferariis Bathonie pro tenemento quod Walterus Riche tenet. Et de iiij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup> solutis Rectori loci pro tenemento Rogeri Towkere. Et de iij<sup>s</sup> solutis procuratori communitatis pro tenementis que Johannes Holt tenet et j tenemento in Froglande. Et de ijs solutis ballivo pro tenemento nuper Ricardi Forster.

Summa xvjs vj<sup>d</sup> ob.

\*? Tessellis—square paving tiles.

† Torn in original.

## EXPENSE.

Item iidem procuratores petunt allocationem de x<sup>s</sup> j<sup>d</sup> solutis pro cera empta erga festum Natalis domini. Et de xxiii<sup>d</sup> solutis pro factura ejusdem cere. Et de x<sup>d</sup> solutis pro una corda empta pro campana.

Et de ij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup> solutis Thome Wyke et Willelmo Wyke carpentariis ad emendendum sedes Campanarum. Et de ij<sup>d</sup> solutis pro potacione predictorum carpentariorum ad tunc duabus vicibus. Et de viij<sup>d</sup> solutis Rogero Arosmyth pro factura feramenti rotarum dictarum campanarum. Et de ij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup> solutis pro stramine empta ad stipulandum domos Johannis Huntte in Bradestrete et j cotagium in Walcot Strete. Et de viij<sup>d</sup> solutis Willelmo Galewey pro cariagio ejusdem straminis.

Et de xij<sup>d</sup> solutis stipulatori pro helme ab eo empto. Et de vj<sup>d</sup> solutis servienti stipulatoris. Et de j<sup>d</sup> soluto pro potacione ejusdem stipulatoris. Et de j<sup>d</sup> solutis pro emendacione duarum mapparum\* ecclesie. Et de vij<sup>d</sup> solutis pro spykes emptis ad cotagium supra dictum. Et de v<sup>d</sup> solutis Thome Bate pro stipulacione cotagii Johannis Hunte. Et de iiij<sup>d</sup> solutis servienti dicti stipulatoris ad tunc. Ex de j<sup>d</sup> solutis pro uno ligno empto ad domum predictam. Et de xv<sup>d</sup> solutis pro bosco empto ad faciendum haiis† in Walcote. Et de viij<sup>d</sup> solutis pro factura haiis predictis. Et de xx<sup>d</sup> solutis pro ligacione librorum ecclesie.

Et de j<sup>d</sup> soluto pro imposicione unius frence in mappis altaris.

Et de iiij<sup>d</sup> solutis pro zabulo empto pro domo Rogeri Dely.

Et de iiij<sup>d</sup> solutis pro dawbing ejusdem domus. Et de j<sup>d</sup> ob. solutis pro uno lampade empto. Et de iij<sup>d</sup> solutis pro j clave empto ad ostium alte crucis. Et de iiij<sup>d</sup> solutis Tegulatori ad tegulandum domum in Northegate Strete. Et de iiij<sup>d</sup> solutis pro tegulis emptis ad eandem domum. Et de j<sup>d</sup> soluto in potacione circa emendacionem horiscopii. Et de ij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup> solutis pro oleo empto per totum annum. Et de ij<sup>s</sup> j<sup>d</sup> solut. pro cera paschali et sepulcri domini empta erga Pascha. Et de x<sup>d</sup> solut. pro una corda empta pro campana. Et de j<sup>d</sup> soluto pro portacione vexilli ecclesie in septimana rogacionum. Et de viij<sup>d</sup> solut. pro expensis Thome Abell procuratoris predicti ad

\* Napkins.

† Palings.



equitandum versus le Devyses ad tractandum cum Ricardo Hendman et Willelmo Rengers ad relaxandum parrochianis ecclesie predicte statum quem predictus Ricardus habuit in tenemento quod Johannes Batyn modo tenet. Et de x<sup>d</sup> solut. pro cariagio fimi et robull jacentium in Bradestrete coram tenemento Walteri Riche. Et de xj<sup>d</sup> solut. pro janctaculo procuratoris et clerici die comptus.

Et de j<sup>d</sup> solut. pro pergameno empto. Et de xij<sup>d</sup> solut. pro factura compoti. Et de iiij<sup>d</sup> solutis Rogero Arosmyth pro Vyrolles\* ferreis factis pro trunco campane. Et de j<sup>d</sup> solut. pro emendendo de les lettours in cancella, et coram altare beate Katerine. in lotionne vestimentorum ecclesie xii<sup>d</sup>

Et de x<sup>d</sup> solut. Thome Speake pro factura muri inter tenementum Roberti . . . . . et tenementum Johannis Selby.

Summa xxxvj<sup>s</sup> vj<sup>d</sup> ob.

#### ANNIVERSARIA CUM STIPENDIIS.

Item iidem procuratores petunt allocacionem de xxxix<sup>s</sup> v<sup>d</sup> solutis tam pro omnibus anniversariis ibidem tenendis per annum quam eciam pro stipendiis.

Summa xxxix<sup>s</sup> v<sup>d</sup>

Summa omnium expensarum iiij<sup>li</sup> xvj<sup>s</sup> vij<sup>d</sup> Et sic predicti procuratores debent in claro v<sup>li</sup> xvij<sup>s</sup> vj<sup>d</sup> q<sup>a</sup> unde solverunt Roberto Phelyppes de arreragiis ultimi comptus xxviijs ij<sup>d</sup> Et sic debent in claro iiij<sup>li</sup> x<sup>s</sup> ij<sup>d</sup> q<sup>a</sup> Et postea procuratores onerantur de ix<sup>s</sup> ij<sup>d</sup> receptis de denariis collectis ad edificandum novam capellam ibidem prout patet per cruces in capitibus nominum scriptorum in quodam rotulo pro hujus collectione nuper facto. Et sic debent in claro iiij<sup>li</sup> xix<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup> q<sup>a</sup> Ulterius procuratores ad presens electi recipient vj<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup> ad festum Michaelis proximo futurum de Johanne Batyn pro fine tenementi sui, ultra quod remanet in pede ut supra. Et postea receperunt iij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup> Et sic remanent clarius v<sup>li</sup> ijs viij<sup>d</sup> q<sup>d</sup> quos solverunt Willelmo Wynchcombe et Thome Abell procuratoribus de novo electis et predictus Willelmus portabit bursam. Memorandum quod Johannes Batyn debet ecclesie predicte vj<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup> pro fine tenementi sui extra comptum predictum solvendum in festo Michaelis proximo futurum.

Verte.

\* ? Spindles.

INDORS.

Item procuratores infra scripti receperunt de bonis ecclesie custodiendis, viz., iiij calices, unum per novorum vestimentorum.  
 Item j flamiolum de Sypres pro pixide corporis Christi.  
 Item viij manutergia.  
 Item ij Missalia.  
 Item ij Portiforia cum j Gradale.  
 Item iiij Processionalia.  
 Item j Ordinale.  
 Item j Legendum temporale et alia quamplurima ornamenta.  
 Computus Thome Abelle et Roberti Phelpes.

No. 22.

BATHONIA.

Computus Willelmi Walley et Johannis Norton, Procuratores Ecclesie Sancti Michaelis extra portam boriam Civitatis Bathonie, factus a festo Sancti Michaelis, Anno regni regis Henrici Sexti post conquestum Octavo usque festum Sancti Michaelis, Anno dicti domini regis post conquestum Anglie nono.

RECEPTA INDENARIIS.

In primis procuratores respondent de vj<sup>li</sup> j<sup>d</sup> ob. prout patet in pede compoti anni proximi precedentis. Et respondent de vij<sup>s</sup> j<sup>d</sup> in pecuniis collectis erga festum Natalis domini et festum Pasce. Et respondent de ij<sup>s</sup> ij<sup>d</sup> pro candelis dominicalibus benedictis.

Summa vj<sup>li</sup> ix<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup> ob.

REDDITUS ASSISE.

Item iidem procuratores respondent de ix<sup>li</sup> xv<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup> de toto redditu Assise ibidem per totum annum ut patet per rentale procuratorum.

Summa ix<sup>li</sup> xv<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup>

INCREMENTUM REDDITUS.

Item iidem procuratores respondent de xvj<sup>d</sup> de incremento redditus tenementi Willelmi Strong. Et respondent de iijs de incremento redditus tenementi Roberti Hayward, et respondent de viij<sup>d</sup> de incremento redditus tenementi Willelmi Osborne.

Summa v<sup>s</sup>

Summa totarum receptarum xvi<sup>li</sup> xix<sup>s</sup> ob.

## RESOLUCIO.

Item iidem procuratores petunt Allocacionem de xxiiij<sup>d</sup> ob. solut. domino Episcopo de langabulo pro omnibus tenementis ejusdem ecclesie. Et de ij<sup>s</sup> vij<sup>d</sup> solut. Magistro Hospitalis Sancti Johannis Baptiste. Et de xx<sup>d</sup> solut. Abbati Sancti Augustini Brystollie pro tenemento quod Johannes Balle modo tenet in Walcote strete. Et de xij<sup>d</sup> solut. Cofferariis Bathonie pro tenemento quod Walterus Ryche tenet. Et de iii<sup>s</sup> iiiij<sup>d</sup> solut. Rectori loci pro tenemento Rogeri Towker. Et de iij<sup>s</sup> solut. procuratori Communitatis pro tenemento Johannis Holte, et j tenemento in Frog lane. Et de ij<sup>s</sup> solut. ballivo pro tenemento nuper Ricardi Forster. Et de xij<sup>d</sup> solut. ballivo de langabulo pro tenemento Roberti Haywarde.

Summa xvj<sup>s</sup> v<sup>d</sup> ob.

## ANNIVERSARIA CUM STIPENDIIS.

Item ibidem procuratores petunt Allocacionem de xxxix<sup>s</sup> v<sup>d</sup> solutis tam pro omnibus aniversariis ibidem tenendis per annum quam eciam pro stipendiis.

Summa xxxix<sup>s</sup> v<sup>d</sup>

## EXPENSE.

Item iidem procuratores petunt Allocacionem de ij<sup>s</sup> vj<sup>d</sup> solut. pro cera empta erga festum Natalis domini. Et de iij<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup> solut. pro cera empta ad ecclesiam erga festum Pasce. Et de viij<sup>d</sup> solut. pro factura ejusdem cere. Et de xj<sup>d</sup> solut. pro factura cere erga festum Natalis domini. Et de vij<sup>s</sup> solutis pro helme empta ad domum Rogeri Doly. Et de xj<sup>d</sup> solut. per cariagio ejusdem. Et de xiiij<sup>d</sup> solut. stipulatori ad stipulandum ibidem. Et de xij<sup>d</sup> solutis servienti stipulatoris. Et de vj<sup>d</sup> solut. pro spykis emptis ad idem. Et de iiiij<sup>d</sup> solut. pro tweystes et clavibus emptis ad domum Willelmi Osborne. Et de vij<sup>d</sup> solut. carpentario pro impositione le justis\* ad domum dicti Willelmi Osborne. Et de xxij<sup>d</sup> solut. pro latchis emptis ad ecclesiam. Et de vij<sup>d</sup> solut. tegulatori pro tegulacione domus Willelmi Strong. Et de ij<sup>d</sup> solut. pro pixide calicis. Et de viij<sup>s</sup> vij<sup>d</sup> solut. pro stramine empto ad domum Willelmi Smalmore et Roberti Vyol. Et de ij<sup>s</sup> ij<sup>d</sup> solut. pro cariagio dicti straminis. Et de ij<sup>s</sup> solut. stipulatori pro stipulacione predicti domus.

\* Joists.

Et de xx<sup>d</sup> solutis servienti stipulatoris. Et de xx<sup>d</sup> solutis pro ligacione dicti straminis. Et de ij<sup>s</sup> solutis pro Spykys emptis ad idem. Et de vj<sup>d</sup> solut. pro helme empto ad idem. Et de iij<sup>d</sup> solut. pro cariaagio veteris straminis. Et de ij<sup>s</sup> vj<sup>d</sup> solut. pro virgis emptis ad faciendum unum Watele. Et de xx<sup>d</sup> solut. pro factura unius Watele.

Et de xvj<sup>d</sup> solut. carpintario pro factura unius fenestre et factura le restys ad idem domum. Et de xiiij<sup>d</sup> solut. pro factura unius cleper ad secundum campanam. Et de vj<sup>d</sup> solut pro factura ij serrarum. Et de vj<sup>d</sup> solut. lathomo pro imposicione unius fenestre domo Willelmi Smalmore. Et de vj<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup> solut. pro legacione unius libri. Et de iij<sup>s</sup> iij<sup>d</sup> pro uno novo suppellicio empto ad clericum. Et de xvij<sup>d</sup> solut. pro stramine empto ad cotagium quod Johannes Norton modo tenet in Frog lane. Et de j<sup>d</sup> pro portacione vexille in obdemada Pentecostem. Et de vj<sup>d</sup> pro percameno ad le portose.\* Et de iij<sup>s</sup> ij<sup>d</sup> solut. pro meremio empto scilicet restys ad domum Willelmi Smalmore et ad domum Roberti Vyol. Et de ij<sup>s</sup> ix<sup>d</sup> solut. pro oleo empto per annum ad ecclesiam. Et de vij<sup>d</sup> solut. stipulatori pro stipulacione cotagii quod Johannes Norton tenet in Frog lane. Et de vj<sup>d</sup> solut. servienti stipulatoris. Et de vj<sup>d</sup> solut. pro spykys emptis ad idem. Et de ij<sup>d</sup> solut. pro helme ad idem. Et de iij<sup>d</sup> solut. pro legacione dicti straminis. Et de vj<sup>d</sup> solut. pro plastrying domum Rogeri Doly. Et de x<sup>s</sup> solut. pro j mille tegularum emptarum ad domum Johannis Stoby. Et de vj<sup>s</sup> solut. tegulatori pro tegulacione ibidem. Et de xvij<sup>d</sup> solut. pro lathnayle emptis ad idem. Et de viij<sup>s</sup> solut. pro custodio orolagii ij annorum. Et de xij<sup>d</sup> solut. pro jantaculo. Et de xij<sup>d</sup> solut. Clerico pro scriptura compoti. Et de xij<sup>d</sup> solut. pro lotura vestimentorum. Et de ij<sup>d</sup> solut. pro percameno et papiro. Et de v<sup>s</sup> solut. pro dimidio mille tegularum emptarum ad ecclesiam.

Et de xvj<sup>d</sup> solut. pro craftes emptis ad domum Johannis Stovy. Et de ij<sup>d</sup> solut. pro messe empto ad idem. Et de ij<sup>d</sup> solut. pro lyme empto ad tunc. Et de j<sup>d</sup> solut. pro tabula empti ad faciendum unum lovele ibidem. Et de j<sup>d</sup> solut. pro clavibus

\* *Porthose*—a breviary.

emptis ad idem. Et de iiij<sup>d</sup> solut. pro candelabro empto ad lumen beate Marie. Et de j<sup>d</sup> solut. pro factura unius cere. Et de vj<sup>d</sup> solut. pro factura unius ostii et emendacione unius sere ad domum Roberti Vyolle. Et de ij<sup>d</sup> solut. pro emendacione unius gutter ad domum quod Johannes Norton tenet in Frog Lane.

Summa v<sup>li</sup> vj<sup>d</sup> vij<sup>d</sup>

Summa totalis Allocacionum et expensarum viij<sup>li</sup> iij<sup>s</sup> vj<sup>d</sup> ob.

Et sic computatis computandis allocatis allocandis remanent in clarius viij<sup>li</sup> vj<sup>s</sup> j<sup>d</sup> quos solvo Johanni Nortone et Willelmi Walley procuratoribus de novo electis, et predictus Johannis Norton portabit bursam et oneratur cum iiij calicibus et j nova secta vestimentorum et j flameolum de Syprys. Item viij manutergia. Item Missalia. Item ij Portiforia cum j Gradale.

Item iiij Processionalia.

Item unum Ordinale.

Item j Legenda temporalia et alia quam plurima ornamenta.

John Balle dat de fine tenementorum suorum que tenet de parochia, vid<sup>t</sup>, unum tenementum in Bradestrete, et alterum tenementum in Walcotestrete xl<sup>s</sup> under solvat xx<sup>s</sup> in festo Annunciacionis beate Marie proximo futuro post datum presencium, et xx<sup>s</sup> in festo Seti Mich<sup>s</sup>. Archangeli proximo futuro post datum presencium.

Joh<sup>s</sup>. Norton dat de fine pro tenemento quod Rog<sup>s</sup>. Towkere modo tenet in Walcotestrete xxxiijs<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup> quos solvat vel solvi faciat ad festum Seti Mich<sup>s</sup> Arch<sup>i</sup> proximum futurum post datum presencium.

## No. 24.

Computus Will<sup>i</sup> Walley et Will<sup>i</sup> Drayton . . . An<sup>o</sup> regni Regis Henrici Sexti post conquestum Anglie undecimo.

### RECEPTE IN DENARIIS.

Imp<sup>s</sup> de xiiij<sup>li</sup> vij<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup> ob. prout patet in pede compoti An<sup>i</sup> proximi precedentis.

Et de pecuniis collectis erga festum Nat<sup>s</sup> Di ad festum Pasche vij<sup>s</sup> v<sup>d</sup> ob. q<sup>a</sup>

Et de ijs<sup>s</sup> j<sup>d</sup> pro candelis dominicalibus benedictis.

Et de iij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup> pro teselis venditis.



Et de xxij<sup>d</sup> de una olla vendita.

Et de v<sup>d</sup> de dyschys venditis.

Et de ij<sup>d</sup> de una corda vendita.

Et de iijs<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup> ex legacione Radulphi Hunte.

Et de ij<sup>d</sup> de Wode vendito.

Et de x<sup>d</sup> receptis de Ric<sup>do</sup> Oxinforde ad le seges.\*

Et de iijs<sup>s</sup> receptis de Joh<sup>e</sup> Batyn pro fine gardini sui in Frog lane.

Et de xx<sup>d</sup> receptis ex legacione domini Joh<sup>s</sup> Nortone rectoris Scti Jacobi.

Et de iiij receptis pro uno tuall† vetere vendito.

Summa xiiij<sup>li</sup> xiijs<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup> q<sup>a</sup>

REDDITUS ASSISE; INCREMENTA; RESOLUCIO; ANNIVERSARIA; as before.

#### EXPENSE.

Petunt allocacionem de xix<sup>d</sup> pro una corda empta ad peyse† orlagii.

Et de xvj<sup>d</sup> pro stramine empto ad domum Joh<sup>s</sup> Wayte.

Et de iiij<sup>d</sup> pro cariagio dicti straminis.

Et de j denario pro purgacione unius gutter ad domum Rog<sup>i</sup> Doly.

Et de j<sup>d</sup> pro cariagio veteris straminis apud Alforde.

Et de xvj<sup>d</sup> pro spykes.

Et de xxiiij<sup>d</sup> pro stramine ad domum Joh<sup>s</sup> Wayte alia vice.

Et de xvj<sup>d</sup> solutis stipulatori pro stipulacione ibidem.

Et de xvij<sup>d</sup> solutis servienti stipulatoris et legacione straminis ibidem.

-Et de iiij<sup>d</sup> pro cariagio dicti straminis.

.. .. .. .. ..

Et de xj<sup>d</sup> pro cordis emptis ad campanam.

Et de iiij<sup>d</sup> pro emendacione Rotuli anniversariorum.

.. .. .. .. ..

Et de iijs<sup>s</sup> ij<sup>d</sup> pro helme empto ad domum Ric<sup>di</sup> Crekeit.

Et de xx<sup>s</sup> pro tegulis emptis ad domum Joh<sup>s</sup> Stovy.

\* Seat, possibly *latrina*; there are many entries for such a convenience in later Rolls. x<sup>s</sup> rec. de Joh<sup>i</sup> Fryle ad le sege, occurs in the next roll.

† An old towell, *tualla*.

‡ Clock weight.

Et de x<sup>d</sup> pro crastes emptis ad idem.

Et de viij<sup>s</sup> solutis tegulatori pro tegulacione ibidem.

Et de ij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup> pro lathys ad idem.

Et de xx<sup>d</sup> pro nayle, scilicet lathenayle, bordenayle, et hacchenayle.

Et de iiij<sup>d</sup> solutis carpentario operanti ibidem.

Et de xiiij<sup>d</sup> solutis lothamo pro emendacione muri Rob<sup>ti</sup> Haywarde et Joh<sup>s</sup> Stovy.

Et de iiij<sup>d</sup> pro dimidio dosser\* zabuli empto ad idem.

.. .. .. .. ..

Et de ij<sup>s</sup> ij<sup>d</sup> ob. pro oleo empto ad ecclesiam per annum.

Et de j<sup>d</sup> pro factura unius Jurnialis.

Et de xiiij<sup>d</sup> pro factura unius fenestri lignei in domo Ric<sup>di</sup> Creket.

Et de xxiiij<sup>d</sup> pro uno ostio facto in dicta domo.

Item de xiiij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup> pro stipulacione domus Ric<sup>di</sup> Crekette cum helme.

Et de iiij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup> solutis pro emendacione duarum fenestrarum vitriarum ecclesie.

Item de iiij<sup>s</sup> solutis custodi orologii pro anno.

.. .. .. .. ..

(The same list of Church vestments, vessels, &c., as before.)

Item memorandum quod Petrus Kent procurator recipiet de Johanne Stovy xl<sup>d</sup> ad usum ecclesie.

## No. 25.

A.D. 1435.

Compotus Petri Kente et Will<sup>mi</sup> Walley . . . a festo S. Mich.

An<sup>o</sup> regni Regis Henrici Sexti post conquesto Anglie duo decimo . . . .

RECEPTE IN DENARIIS. REDDITUS ASSISE. (As before.)

INCREMENTUM REDDITUS.

Idem procuratores respondent de xvj<sup>d</sup> de incremento redditus tenementi Will<sup>i</sup> Strang.

Et de viij<sup>d</sup> de increm<sup>o</sup> redd. ten<sup>ti</sup> Will<sup>i</sup> Osbarne.

Et de j<sup>d</sup> de increm<sup>o</sup> redd. cotagii nostri in Froglane.

RESOLUCIO (as before). ANNIVERSARIUM CUM STIPENDIIS (as before).

\* A basket carried on the back.

## DEFECTUS REDDITUS.

Item petunt allocacionem de v<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup> defectus redditus ten<sup>i</sup> Ric<sup>i</sup>  
Guilham quia vacat per annum.

.. .. .. .. ..

## EXPENSE.

Item de xix<sup>s</sup> v<sup>d</sup> pro factura muri et cariagio lapidum et zabuli  
ad domum quam Rob<sup>s</sup> Haywarde nuper tenuit in Walcote-  
strete.

Et de xij<sup>s</sup> xj<sup>d</sup> ob. pro stramine empto et stipulacione et serviente  
et pro virgis ad faciendum j Watyl et pro factura dicti Watyll  
ad domum predictam.

Et de v<sup>d</sup> pro j nova serura empti ad idem.

Et de ij<sup>d</sup> solutis Carpyntario ibidem operanti pro leggyng unius  
ostii.

Et de j<sup>d</sup> ob. Carpyntario pro factura unius fenestre ibidem.

Et de ij<sup>d</sup> pro imposicione unius sere ibidem et nayle.

Et de ij<sup>d</sup> pro stodyng\* et frethyng ibidem.

Et de xvij<sup>d</sup> pro nova fenestra facta ad domum nostram in Walcote-  
strete quam Joh<sup>s</sup> Wayte nuper tenuit.

Et de iiij<sup>s</sup> v<sup>d</sup> pro factura unius muri et imposicione dicte fenestre.

Et de xiiij<sup>d</sup> pro cariagio zabuli ad idem.

Et de vj<sup>d</sup> ob. pro twystes, hokes et nayles ad idem.

Et de ij<sup>d</sup> pro factura alterius fenestre ibidem.

Et de iiij<sup>d</sup> pro castyng de terra et rudyng predictae domi.

Et de viij<sup>d</sup> solutis stipulatori pro stipulacione apud Walcote.

Et de iiij<sup>d</sup> solutis servienti stipulatoris.

Et de j<sup>d</sup> in potacione ad tunc.

Et de iiij<sup>d</sup> pro spykes ad idem.

Et de ij<sup>d</sup> ob. pro emendacione unius stayre ad domum Wil<sup>i</sup>  
Strang.

Et de xj<sup>d</sup> pro ij seris ad domum Joh<sup>s</sup> Scherer.

Et de vj<sup>d</sup> ob. pro j nova dexte facta ad altare.

.. .. .. .. ..

Et de j<sup>d</sup> soluto Joh<sup>i</sup> Fyscher carpentario in ernest pro factura  
domi Ric<sup>i</sup> Guilham.

Et de iiij<sup>d</sup> pro scriptura indenture de convencione.

\* Two local building words ; the last is spelt occasionally *vrethyng* ; following the Somerset pronunciation.

Et de v<sup>d</sup> in vino ad dictam convencionem.

Et de iiij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup> pro takyng a downe prediete domi et pro cariagio de rubule.

Et de j<sup>d</sup> in potacione ibidem.

Et de vj<sup>d</sup> pro takyng a downe unius muri ibidem.

Et de vj<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup> pro ij claveys emptis et aliis petris ad predictam domum.

Et de viij<sup>d</sup> pro lymestones emptis ad idem.

Et de xij<sup>d</sup> pro purgacione selarii\* subtus.

Et de ij<sup>s</sup> ob. pro cariagio de Rubule de dicto selario.

Et de ii<sup>s</sup> pro cariagio zabuli. sc. iij busellorum et pro dyggyng ad idem.

Et de vj<sup>li</sup> solutis Joh<sup>i</sup> Fyscher carpyntario pro factura dictae domi.

Et de iiij<sup>d</sup> pro spykes emptis ad usum ecclesie.

.. .. .. .. ..

Et de iij<sup>d</sup> pro imposicione de parura in le aube et emendacione alterias vestimenti.

Et de j<sup>d</sup> ob. pro j gemell empto ad domum Willi Osborne.

Et de iiij<sup>s</sup> solutis custodi oriligii pro an<sup>o</sup>

.. .. .. .. ..

Et de xij<sup>d</sup> solutis pro stramine empto et cariagio ad domum Joh<sup>s</sup> Somerkyng.

Et de iiij<sup>d</sup> pro j schale† empto ad cotagium nostrum in Froglane.

.. .. .. .. ..

(The same list of Church vestments, &c.)

Item memorandum quod dictus Willelmus procurator recipiet de Will<sup>mo</sup> Phelps pro fine Columbarii xl<sup>s</sup>

## No. 26.

A.D. 1439.

Compotus Joh<sup>s</sup> Hotte et Willi Walley . . . an<sup>o</sup> Regis Henrici sexti post conquestum Anglie sextodecimo.

RECEPTE DENARIORUM . . . . . de j<sup>s</sup> xj<sup>d</sup> per j ollam eneam venditam.

Et de xij<sup>d</sup> ex legacione Robti Hoper.

Et de xij<sup>d</sup> receptis de Joh<sup>e</sup> Northfolke ad lez seges.

\* So spelt in original, but it must surely be *solarii*.

† A ladder.

Et de xij<sup>d</sup> de Thoma Burletone et Joh<sup>e</sup> Strange ad le seges.

Et de iij<sup>d</sup> pro stipendio schal.

Et de ij<sup>d</sup> ob. de denariis Sti Petri.

Et de ix<sup>d</sup> pro classicis\* pulsandis.

Et de v<sup>s</sup> pro meremio vendito majori et communitati.

Et de iiij<sup>d</sup> solutis pro loppys receptis.

.. .. .. ..  
.. .. .. ..

Et de xiiij<sup>d</sup> solutis pro factura unius shal† ad ecclesiam.

Et de iiij<sup>d</sup> pro uno barre ferre ad ecclesiam.

Et de ij<sup>s</sup> v<sup>d</sup> pro cera empta erga festum Pasche.

Et de xij<sup>d</sup> pro j cera facta ante sepulcrum.

Et de ij<sup>d</sup> pro candelis ad le Judas.

Et de iiij<sup>s</sup> ix<sup>d</sup> pro helme empto ad domum Wil<sup>i</sup> Momforte.

.. .. .. ..

Et de ij<sup>d</sup> pro j patella‡ fracta in usum ecclesie.

Et de iij<sup>d</sup> pro j corda empta ad le lente clothe et ad parvam campanam.

.. .. .. ..

Et de ij<sup>s</sup> pro stramine empto ad usum ecclesie et pro cariagio dicti straminis.

Et de vj<sup>s</sup> pro spykes emptis ad usum ecclesie.

Et de vij<sup>s</sup> vj<sup>d</sup> pro sawyngge tabulis.

Et de xiiij<sup>d</sup> pro stepulacione domi W<sup>i</sup> Momforte.

Et de viij<sup>d</sup> solutis servienti stipulatoris.

Et de v<sup>s</sup> solutis pro legacione legende.

.. .. .. ..

Et de xiiij<sup>d</sup> pro emendacione j muri et pro bemefylllyngge ibidem.

Et de v<sup>s</sup> solutis carpentario operanti ibidem.

.. .. .. ..

Et de ij<sup>d</sup> solutis in potacione diversis vicibus ad carpentarium et latomum operantes in domo nuper Joh<sup>s</sup> Pochyn.

Et de ij<sup>s</sup> ij<sup>d</sup> pro rydyngge et purgacione dicte domi.

Et de iiij<sup>d</sup> pro factura j latys§ ibidem.

\* This occurs first here—ringing death knells.

† ? Ladder.

‡ A small lamp.

§ Window made of lathe-work.



Et de vij<sup>d</sup> pro twystes hokes et nayles emptis ad ij fenestras domi predictæ.

Et de vij<sup>d</sup> pro cariagio lapidum ad predictam domum.

Et de iiij<sup>d</sup> in expensas apud Farley pro meremio.

Et de j pro emendacione degetorum Imaginis S. Thome.

Item de xij<sup>d</sup> pro factura j flore ad domum Thome Brydde et pro clavis.

Et de xiijs pro emendacione viridis\* campi.

.. .. .

Et de iij<sup>d</sup> pro dimidio C de borde nayles empto ad ecclesiam.

Et de iiij<sup>d</sup> pro emendacione j calicis.

Et de ijs viij<sup>d</sup> solutis stipulatori et cervienti ejusdem pro factura j watyll ad domum Rogeri Doly. Et de vj<sup>d</sup> pro virgis ad predictum Watyll.

Et de xij<sup>d</sup> pro j growndesell† et pro virgis ad domum nuper Joh<sup>s</sup> Corte.

Et de xj<sup>d</sup> pro factura j hostii ad domum Wil<sup>i</sup> Wynchecombe.

Et de viij<sup>d</sup> pro twystes, hokes et nayles, et ij<sup>d</sup> pro legges ad idem.

Et de xvjs viij<sup>d</sup> pro j Emanuale‡ empto ad ecclesiam.

Et de xvij<sup>d</sup> solutis duobus hominibus equitantibus versus Bristoliam pro dicto libro.

Et de xvij<sup>d</sup> pro ij lode lyme ad ecclesiam.

Et de ij<sup>d</sup> solutis Joh<sup>i</sup> Kerne in earnest et pro j corda ad campanam.

Et de xj<sup>d</sup> pro factura de le hersse.

Et de xl<sup>d</sup> solutis tegulatori operanti ad domum nuper Joh<sup>s</sup> Pochyn.

Et de viij<sup>d</sup> ob. pro laqueis ad idem, et de x<sup>d</sup> ob. pro lathnayles ad eandem domum.

Et de v<sup>d</sup> pro factura iiij<sup>or</sup> lacchys ferre ad eandem.

Et de iij<sup>d</sup> pro laqueis ad domum Ric<sup>di</sup> Pochene.

Et de iiij<sup>d</sup> pro ij C de lathe nayles ad eandem domum.

Et de ij<sup>d</sup> solutis pro registro diversorum librorum istius ecclesie.

Et de ijs pro j latys facto ad domum nuper Ric<sup>di</sup> Guilham.

\* ? *Green cloth, i.e., the ground was green.* Rymer has "lectum de panno aureo in rubeo Campo."

† The lowest (or *ground*) beam in a timber building.

‡ Manuale.

.. ..  
Et dicti parochiani dederunt Johi Holte pro bono competente  
salario viij<sup>s</sup> v<sup>d</sup>

*The same list of Church goods, with the addition, cum ij annulis  
argenti.*

.. ..  
Et quod Thomas Abell ex assensu parochianorum ibidem ex-  
oneratus est redditus tenementi sui pro anno sequente.

## No. 27.

1441.

Compotus Johannis Whytynge, Wever, et Johannis Holte,  
procuratores ecclesie Sti Mich<sup>s</sup> extra portam borialem civitatis  
Bathonie factus in Festo Sanctarum xj<sup>m</sup> virginum, viz. anno  
domini Millesimo cccc quadragesimo primo.

## RECEPTE IN DENARIIS.

In primis dicti procuratores respondent de vij<sup>d</sup> receptis in pecuniis  
unius\* sedis in ecclesia pdcta.

Et de x<sup>d</sup> rec<sup>s</sup> de lingnis† tenementi olim Johannis Somerkyng in  
Bradstrete.

Et de ij<sup>d</sup> rec<sup>s</sup> pro sponys‡ venditis. Et de iiij<sup>d</sup> rec<sup>s</sup> pro j planke  
unius sedis a Johanne Northfolke et Thoma Somerset.

Et de iiij<sup>d</sup> rec<sup>s</sup> pro sponys alia vice. Et de vj<sup>s</sup> x<sup>d</sup> rec<sup>s</sup> ad Trabem  
et ad ceram Paschalem. Et de v<sup>d</sup> ob de tenemento nuper  
Ric<sup>di</sup> Gelam. Et de viij<sup>d</sup> rec<sup>s</sup> unius sedis Thome Bradwey.

Summa xij<sup>s</sup> ij<sup>d</sup> ob.

## REDDITUS ASSISE.

Item iidem procur<sup>s</sup> respondent de vij<sup>li</sup> xv<sup>d</sup> de toto redditu assise  
per totum an: et patet per rentale procuratoris.

RESOLUCIO, as before. ANNIVERSARIA CUM STIPENDIIS, as before.

## DEFECTUS REDDITUS.

Item petunt allocacionem de ij<sup>s</sup> vj<sup>d</sup> defectu redditus tenementi  
nuper Robti Haywarde in Walcotestrete.

Et de ix<sup>s</sup> tenementi olim Joh<sup>s</sup> Pochyn. Et de ij<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup> cotagii  
quod vocatur Berehowse in Froglane. Et de xij<sup>s</sup> tenementi

\* Observe rent for a seat in Church received at this period by the Wardens.

† *Lignis*. The word is often so spelt.

‡ Spoons.

Thome Abell in Bradestrete. Et de iiij<sup>s</sup> x<sup>d</sup> ob tenementi nuper Ric<sup>i</sup> Gelam. Et de viij<sup>s</sup> tenementi Joh<sup>s</sup> Balle senioris in Bradestrete. Et de iiij<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup> cotagii apud Alforde. Et de iij<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup> Joh<sup>s</sup> Were junioris in Bradestrete.

Et de vj<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup> nuper tenementi W<sup>i</sup> Osborne in Bradestrete.

Summa lv<sup>s</sup> ob.

# EXPENSE.

Item petunt allocacionem de vi<sup>d</sup> pro oleo empto erga festum Natalis domini. Et de iij<sup>d</sup> pro kyttynge de xij kyrvis tenementi ecclesie. Et de ij<sup>d</sup> in potacione hominibus ibidem laborantibus.

Et de v<sup>s</sup> vj<sup>d</sup> solutis ad sawyeres pro sawyng lignorum ad tenementum. Et de v<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup> artificibus operantibus ibidem.

Et de iij<sup>d</sup> ob. pro oleo erga festum purificationis Beate Marie.

Et de xv<sup>d</sup> pro cera ad ecclesiam erga predictum festum. Et de j<sup>d</sup> pro candelis.

Et de j<sup>d</sup> in potacione pro portacione lignorum dictis tenementis.

Et de x<sup>d</sup> pro j corda emptas ad parvam campanam.

Et de vj<sup>d</sup> pro virgis emptis ad domum Joh<sup>s</sup> Somerkyng.

Et de ij<sup>s</sup> solutis pro vrethyng\* et dawbyng predicti tenementi.

Et de x<sup>d</sup> pro virgis ad domum Ric<sup>i</sup> Creket. Et de vj<sup>d</sup> pro clavibus.

Et de xij<sup>d</sup> pro sarracione lignorum ad trabem.

Et de iiij<sup>s</sup> solutis duobus artificibus ibidem iij dies operantibus.

Et de j<sup>d</sup> in potacione. Et de ij<sup>s</sup> procuratori ecclesie pro suis laboribus ibidem laborantibus.

Et de ij<sup>d</sup> pro candelis ad judas in vigilia tenebrarum.

Et de ij<sup>d</sup> pro oleo empto aliis vicibus. Et de iij<sup>d</sup> ob. aliis vicibus.

Et de viij<sup>d</sup> pro lapidibus limis ad tenementum ecclesie.

Et de ij<sup>d</sup> pro carynge et rudyng campanile ecclesie predictae.

Et de iij<sup>d</sup> ob. pro oleo erga festum Pentecosten.

Et de xij<sup>d</sup> solutis artifici pro emendacione domi Rob<sup>i</sup> Baron.

Et de j<sup>d</sup> pro portacione vexilli in ebdomada Pentecosten.

Et de viij<sup>d</sup> sol. artifici pro emendacione medie campane.

Et de iiij<sup>d</sup> ob. pro oleo alia vice.

Et de x<sup>d</sup> pro twystes hokes et gemows ad domum Rob<sup>i</sup> Baron.

Et de j<sup>d</sup> pro clavibus ad predictam domum.

Et de vj<sup>d</sup> in potacione in die visitacionis.

\* Frethyng.

† This is one of the earliest notices of a Visitation.

Et de ij<sup>d</sup> pro rudynge tenemento Walt<sup>i</sup> Kente in Bradestrete.

Et de v<sup>s</sup> vj<sup>d</sup> pro cera empta ad trabem et ad ceram Paschalem  
ac pro factura ejusdem cere.

Et de ij<sup>s</sup> ij<sup>d</sup> pro cera empta ad Journallum et pro alia cera coram  
ymagine Trinitatis et Caterine.

Et de xvj<sup>d</sup> pro lymestone ad domum Rob<sup>i</sup> Barone, et de viij<sup>d</sup> pro  
lavacione diete domi.

Et de viij<sup>d</sup> pro lavacione et emendacione nuper tenementi Joh<sup>s</sup>  
Somerkyng.

Et de v<sup>d</sup> pro emendacione de j Bawdery ad mediam campanam.

Et de xij<sup>d</sup> procuratori ecclesie pro lavacione pannorum ecclesie.

Et de iiij<sup>s</sup> pro gubernacione orlogii.

Et de ij<sup>d</sup> clerico ecclesie pro illuminacione lampadis Scti Egidii.

Et de iiij<sup>s</sup> pro stramine ad usum ecclesie.

Et de xij<sup>d</sup> pro scripcione dicti compotus.

Et de ix<sup>d</sup> pro crastis emptis ad domum Joh<sup>s</sup> Stooy.

Et de vj<sup>d</sup> pro j scheyde\* empta ad domum Rob<sup>i</sup> Baron.

Et de vj<sup>d</sup> solutis pro mersyng† ad ballivum civitatis in ij law days.

Et de ij pro parcameno ad scribendum dictum compotum.

Et de ij<sup>d</sup> pro factura j cere coram ymagine Catarine in ecclesia  
pdeta.

Et de xxij<sup>d</sup> ob. pro reparacione domi Rob<sup>i</sup> Barone.

Et de j<sup>d</sup> pro emendacione j sere tenementi olim Rob<sup>i</sup> Haywarde.

Summa lvj<sup>s</sup> xj<sup>d</sup>

(*The ordinary recapitulation of accounts. The new Wardens are charged with the same Church vestments, vessels, &c., as before: cum ij annulis argenti, in addition.*)

## No. 28.

†Compotus Thome Whateley et Willelmi Walley junioris procuratores ibidem a Festo Sctarum undecim milia virginum  
An<sup>o</sup> Di M<sup>i</sup> cccc<sup>mo</sup> lix<sup>o</sup> usque idem Festum proximo sequente  
An<sup>o</sup> Di M<sup>i</sup> cccclx<sup>o</sup>

\* Segment (?)

† *Amercing.* Fine imposed by the city bayliff, possibly for non-appearance on Court days.

‡ There is no account extant between 1441 and 1459. The parish tenements appear to have increased in number and value in the interval; the names of many householders in Bath 400 years ago are thus rescued from oblivion.



## ARRERAGIA.

Et de xlvi<sup>s</sup> x<sup>d</sup> ob. de arreragiis ultimi compoti ut patet per precedentem.

Summa xlvi<sup>s</sup> x<sup>d</sup> ob.

## REDDITUS ASSISE.

Et de ix<sup>li</sup> xvj<sup>s</sup> receptis de toto reddito assise per an. ut patet per Rentale factum tempore Ric<sup>i</sup> Thooode et Joh<sup>s</sup> Sewye procuratores dicte ecclesie, an<sup>o</sup> regni Regis Henrici quinti post conquestum septimo.

Summa ix<sup>li</sup> xvj<sup>s</sup>

## INCREMENTUM REDDITUS.

Et de ij de incremento redditus tenementi Ric<sup>i</sup> Glovero quod T<sup>s</sup> Brydde modo inhabitat.

Et de viij<sup>d</sup> ten<sup>i</sup> olim W<sup>i</sup> Osborne quod T<sup>s</sup> Palles modo inhabitat.

Et de vj<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup> ten<sup>i</sup> nuper Th<sup>e</sup> Stanburghe quondam Wal<sup>i</sup> Ryches pro vj<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup> per an. Et de xvj<sup>d</sup> ten<sup>i</sup> nuper J<sup>s</sup> Balle Towkere modo W<sup>i</sup> Wydenam pro viij<sup>s</sup> per an.

Et de iij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup> tenementi nuper Wal<sup>i</sup> Ryches quod Wil<sup>s</sup> Abyndone nuper inhabitavit, modo vacat.

Et de vj<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup> ten<sup>i</sup> olim Rog<sup>i</sup> Hobbys xiiij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup> una cum gardino nuper J<sup>s</sup> Roche iiij<sup>s</sup> et cotagium Dionisii Dyare vocatum Berehouse ij<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup> et sic solebat reddere de antiquo in toto xx<sup>s</sup> modo concessos Ric<sup>o</sup> Reede per an. xxvj<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup>

Summa xx<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup>

## RECEPCIO DENARIORUM.

Et de vj<sup>s</sup> vij<sup>d</sup> ob. de denariis collectis ad lumen thrabe et ceream fontis ad festum Pasche an<sup>o</sup> isto.

Et de ij<sup>s</sup> ij<sup>d</sup> de candelis venientibus cum pane benedicto per an.

Et de iiij<sup>d</sup> de Margareta Cockesale pro pulsacione unius classici pro anima Ric<sup>i</sup> Cockesale. Et de iiij<sup>d</sup> de Rectore pro pulsacione classici pro anima J<sup>s</sup> Berlelett.

Summa ix<sup>s</sup> v<sup>d</sup> ob.

Summa totalis receptarum xiiij<sup>li</sup> xiiij<sup>s</sup>

## RESOLUCIO REDDITUS, as before.

## DEFECTUS REDDITUS.

Et in defectu redditus ten<sup>i</sup> nuper Ric<sup>i</sup> Crykett in Bradestrete ultra vj<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup> lev<sup>s</sup> de J<sup>e</sup> Wytecombe per an. iiij<sup>d</sup>

Et in defectu red<sup>s</sup> ten<sup>i</sup> nuper Ri Forster modo Th<sup>e</sup> Abell in Bradestrete ultra xiiij<sup>s</sup> lev<sup>s</sup> de eodem per an. iiij<sup>s</sup>





